

THE HISTORICAL RECORDS  
OF  
THE 34TH (PRINCE ALBERT VICTOR'S OWN)  
POONA HORSE



H.R.H. THE DUKE OF CLARENCE AND AVONDALE

FIRST COLONEL-IN-CHIEF OF THE POONA HORSE

Reproduced from a picture presented to the Officers of the Regiment by  
H.M. KING GEORGE V.

# THE HISTORICAL RECORDS

OF

THE 34<sup>TH</sup> (PRINCE ALBERT VICTOR'S  
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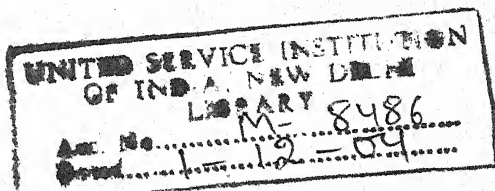
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COMPILED BY

MAJOR G. M. MOLLOY, P.S.C.

POONA HORSE

THIRD EDITION



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## PREFACE

THE following pages contain a more or less brief outline of the principal events in the history of the Poona Horse, from the time the regiment was raised in July, 1817, up to the 1st January, 1918. That it is incomplete the compiler is the first to acknowledge. The chief cause of this is, that, owing to the irregular nature of the corps during the early and most interesting part of its existence, regimental records, as at present maintained, were conspicuous by their absence. This is not surprising when we remember that the various divisions were practically always employed on active service, and the small number of British officers must perforce have had small leisure in which to drop the sword to wield the pen. It is probable, however, that amongst the descendants of these heroes of the last century, there are some who have still in their possession letters, memoirs, etc., which contain details that would be of the greatest interest at the present time. The Commandant would be deeply grateful to anybody who would forward him such papers, with a view of extracts being made therefrom. They will be most jealously guarded while in possession of the regiment, and will be returned at an early date to their owners. It is hoped, in another four years' time, to celebrate the centenary of the regiment in a fitting manner, and if sufficient material is obtained, to produce a history of the Poona Horse worthy of such an occasion. With this object the Commandant appeals for assistance to the grandsons and sons of deceased officers of the regiment, and to those retired officers whose personal recollections of events, such as the Afghan War of 1879-80, would be of the greatest help.

The first copy of the regimental historical records was compiled by Majors G. C. Hogg and C. M. Erskine, and dealt with the period 1817 to 1882. A second edition was produced by Colonel A. Currie in the year 1890. The period 1890 to 1912, and the greater portion of the earlier history of the regiment, was compiled by Major G. M. Molloy in 1913.

There probably are many allusions to the services of the Poona Horse in biographies, military histories and despatches, that have been overlooked by the compiler. The Commandant would be grateful if officers would communicate any such extracts that may come to their notice.

This edition would not be complete without an allusion to the great assistance most courteously given by Mr. R. H. Headley of the India Office, through whose kindness a large amount of material was placed at the disposal of the compiler. The Commanding Officer takes this opportunity of tendering the best thanks of the regiment to Mr. Headley for the interest he has shown and the trouble he has taken.

SECUNDERABAD,  
1st January, 1913.

NOTE.—The spelling of names of people and places has been left the same as in the original documents from which these records have been compiled. This is not likely to cause confusion, and is of interest, showing as it does the different stages through which such spelling has passed during the last hundred years.

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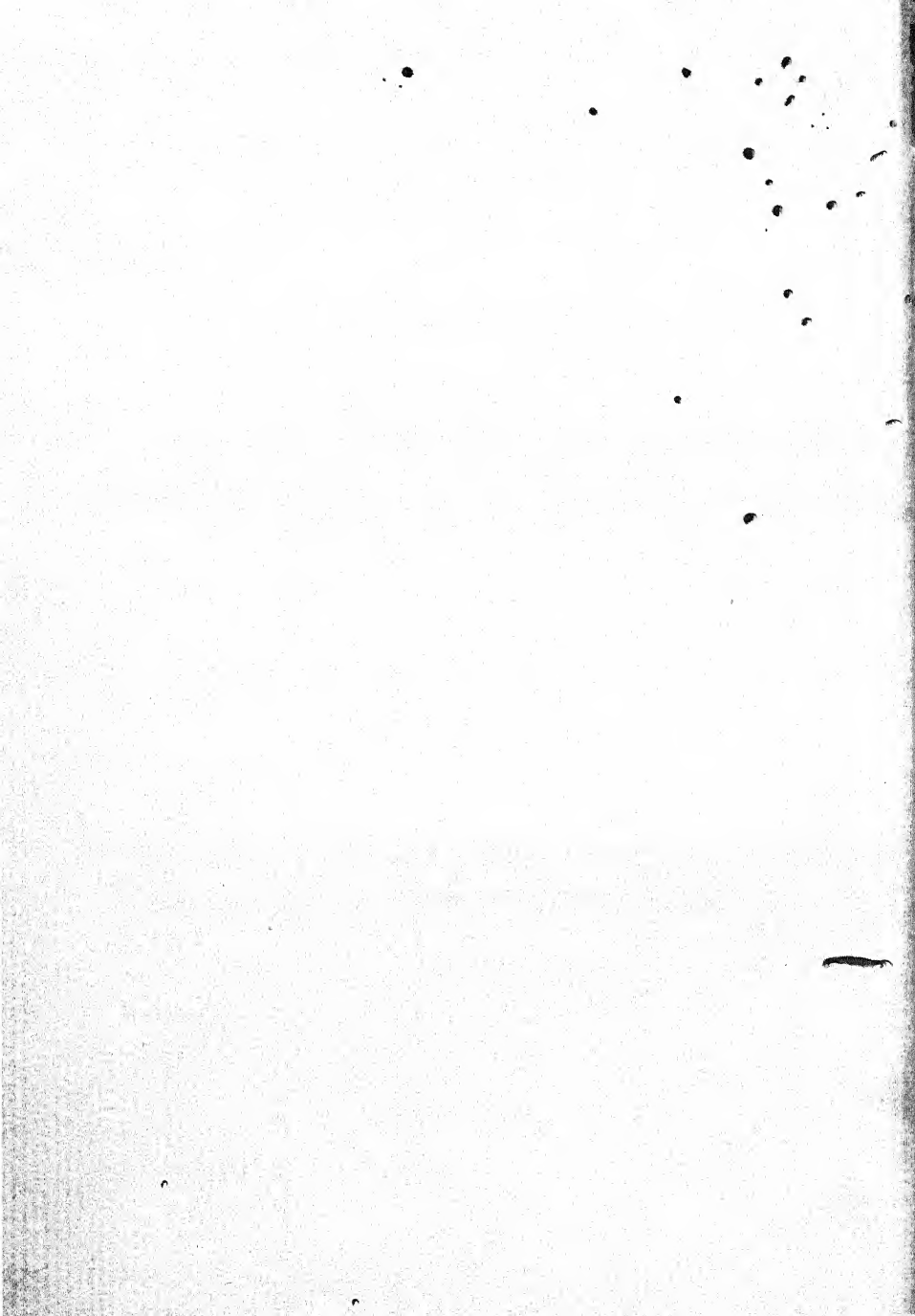


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# THE HISTORICAL RECORDS OF THE POONA HORSE

## INTRODUCTION

THE POONA HORSE was raised in 1817 as a result of the Treaty concluded with the Peishwa at Poona on the 13th June of that year. Article VI. of the Treaty stipulated that the Peishwa should place sufficient funds in the hands of the British to provide for the maintenance of a force to consist of not more than 5,000 Horse and 3,000 Infantry, with the necessary complement of Ordnance, etc. The troops, thus raised, were to supersede the then existing Poona Subsidiary Force, which was a force maintained by the Peishwa, in accordance with a previous Treaty, for the purpose of co-operating with the British when called upon. The Subsidiary Force, recruited and maintained by the Peishwa, and forming a part of his Army, could only be regarded as available for service so long as he was well disposed towards the British. When friction arose the Force became a strength to the Peishwa, rather than a check upon him as was desired. The new Force, which was designated the Poona Auxiliary Force, was to be recruited and commanded by British officers, and although maintained by revenue arising from the territorial grants made by the Peishwa, the Force had no relation with his Government, and could be regarded as a British Force, permanently stationed in the Peishwa's country, available if necessary for action against the Peishwa himself.

The units included in the Poona Auxiliary Force were in-

incorporated in the British service, as part of the Bombay Army, on the 5th November, 1817.

The Resident at the Peishwa's court at Poona, who negotiated the Treaty in 1817, was the Honorable Mountstuart Elphinstone, afterwards Governor of Bombay, and immediately after its conclusion a number of military officers were placed under his orders, and the work of raising the new Force commenced. Of the Force thus formed, and which took a distinguished part in the ensuing campaign of 1817-1819, the Cavalry alone have continued as a regiment to the present day, being now designated the 34th P.A.V.O. Poona Horse.

The Artillery was disbanded in 1819, at the termination of the war, and the Infantry (the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd Battalions Poona Auxiliary Infantry) were disbanded in 1820 (Bombay General Orders dated the 24th May and 3rd and 22nd June, 1820), when all native officers, N.C.O.'s and men were invited to volunteer for new regiments, to be raised for the Bombay Army—viz.:

3rd Bombay Light Cavalry, now the 83rd Queen Victoria's Own Light Cavalry.

1st Battalion 12th Bombay Native Infantry.

2nd Marine Battalion 12th Bombay Native Infantry.

1st and 2nd Extra Battalions.

Before considering the Historical Records of the Poona Horse, it may be of interest to review, briefly, the political situation in India in 1817, and the circumstances which led to the Treaty of Poona and the consequent formation of the regiment.

The peace which had followed the Mahratta War of 1803-1805 could at most be only regarded as a cessation of hostilities. All the elements of disorder in Central India were left untouched, and it was merely a question of time as to when the state of affairs would become so disturbed as to render it imperative for the Government of India to interfere, with the object of ending the general scramble for dominion and power, which existed throughout the whole area of Central India. The Marquis of Hastings, who, as Lord Moira, had



arrived in India, as Governor-General in 1813, had come to the conclusion that, without so altering the relations of the various princes, one to another, so as to remove all inducements to predatory and ambitious adventure on the extensive scale then prosecuted, no partial measures, however brilliant or successful on our part, and distressing to the adventurers of the time, could prevent the speedy recurrence of the evil, and possibly in a more formidable shape. The Government of India felt authorized by instructions, already received from England, to undertake active measures for the suppression of the Pindaris, and their dispersal from their haunts in Malwa and Saugor, and to make arrangements with the Central Indian rulers to ensure the tranquillity of the districts.

The Nepal War, and various other matters, delayed the Governor-General from taking any serious action in Central India until 1816, when preparations were made to settle the question. There were two main difficulties for settlement: (1) The relationship between the various States and the Company's Government, (2) the Pindaris. The first it was hoped would be settled without actual hostilities, and with a view to finally destroying the Pindari bands, which had for years plundered and ravaged in Central India, the armies of the three Presidencies were ordered to take the field, with the object of advancing from all directions against the Pindari strongholds. However, the rise of the Mahratta States to oppose the execution of Lord Hastings' plans for the suppression of the Pindaris, converted what would have probably been a campaign of little military interest into one of considerable magnitude and importance. The Pindaris, who were the primary cause of the war of 1817-1819, were originally of Rohilla or Pathan ancestry, and after the dissolution of the Mahomedan power in the Deccan, entered the service of Mahratta Princes. Under various chieftains they were present with the Mahratta Army at the Battle of Paniput, and suffered heavily in that defeat. One of the unlooked-for results of the war of 1803 was to free the Pindaris from the control, exercised over them by the Mahratta rulers, and long before 1817 they had become a military system of bandits of all races and

creeds. Their numbers were continually recruited by adventurers and desperadoes from all over India. Their bands, or "durrabs," belonged to two main divisions—the Scindia Shahee and the Holkar Shahee—which marked their former dependence on those chiefs. Some of their leaders had acquired extensive territorial possessions, either by grant or by conquest, the chief and best known being Amir Ali, who ruled an important military State at Tonk, in Malwa, and maintained a well-organized army of horse, foot, and artillery. From the hills and jungles of Central India, where they had their strongholds, the Pindaris raided in all directions. In 1812 they raided the district of Mirzapore, Bundelcund, South Behar, and the country round Benares. In 1813 their bands ravaged up to the town of Surat, where over 12,000 people, from the surrounding country, took refuge. In 1816 their bands penetrated the Madras Presidency to the district of Masulipatam. Their strength fluctuated, but in 1814 Mr. Jenkins estimated the strength of the Scindia Shahee at 25,000 men, and the Holkar Shahee at 9,000 men, of whom rather more than half were well mounted. Considerable information regarding their organization and methods is contained in a Report to the Government of India, made at the close of 1809 by Captain Sydenham, the Resident at Hyderabad. He estimates their strength then at 25,000 men, and states that they "generally invade a country in bodies from 1,000 to 4,000 strong. They advance to the frontier with such rapidity that the account of their depredations is generally the first intimation of their approach. As soon as they pass the frontier they disperse in small parties of from 200 to 500 each. They are not encumbered with tents, bazaars, or baggage of any description. They carry nothing but their arms, and their saddle-cloths are their beds." In discussing measures for the protection of the Company's territory against the Pindaris, Captain Sydenham remarks: "It must be evident that no system of defence, and no distribution of troops, can completely protect a country against occasional depredations of the Pindaris. The employment of infantry in pursuit of them is quite out of the question. Even the

cavalry, regularly equipped, is scarcely capable of overtaking an enemy who is prepared, and accustomed, to move with the greatest rapidity, and who has nothing with him to retard his movements." All of which might be an extract from a report by a political officer on the north-west frontier in the present year, 1913.

When the Government of India resolved, in 1816, on operations against the Pindaris, it was decided to call on the Central Indian States in alliance with us, for assistance, and sanction was given also for the formation of Irregular Horse, on the model of Skinner's Horse, with a view to their employment in protecting the frontiers and preventing the entry of robber bands into British country.

When the Grand Army in Northern India assembled in 1817, under the command of the Governor-General himself, with General Sir Thomas Hislop in command of the Army of the Deccan in the South, and the States of Central India were invited to co-operate in the suppression of the Pindaris, contingents were furnished by Hyderabad, Baroda, and Mysore only. Lord Hastings had hoped that the principal chiefs would have agreed to second the operations against the Pindaris, and the measures intended to ensure tranquillity in Central India, upon an invitation being extended to them; for, although their powers for aggression would be restricted, it would secure them in possession of their own territories, and guard the succession of their families. With this view Mr. Metcalfe, the Resident at Delhi, had been instructed to open negotiations with Holkar, Amir Khan, Jypore, Jodhpore, Oodeypore, and the other Rajput States. Captain Close, the Resident at Gwalior, was appointed to conduct the negotiations there. The Resident at Nagpore was instructed to invite the adhesion of the Rajah of Berar and also the ruler of Bhopal to the proposals. The negotiations with the Peishwa, at Poona, had been proceeding for some time under the charge of the Resident there, Mr. Elphinstone, and concerned not only the state of affairs in Central India, but many other matters in dispute with the Peishwa.

The action taken by the various States will be understood

better if they are considered separately, for although certain of them made common cause against us during the ensuing war, their armies were encountered separately, and action, both political and military, was taken against each State individually. The Rajput States of Central India took no part in the war, and prior to that time we had no Treaties of Alliance with most of them. One of Lord Hastings' objects, in interfering in the political situation in Central India was to free them from the tyranny of their Mahratta neighbours, and enable them to have direct relations with the Government of India. Treaties were concluded with all as a result of the negotiations, and also with Bhopal.

### SCINDIA.

After the war of 1803 Scindia remained on friendly terms with the British until 1813, when he received an envoy from the Peishwa. He was occupied either in punishing his own refractory subjects, or employed in plundering expeditions in Malwa, Bhopal, and Rajputana. Although not outwardly hostile, he made no attempt to hinder the Pindari bands from crossing his country on their way to ravage British territory. After he had returned evasive replies, in 1816-17, to the proposals made by the Governor-General, Lord Hastings joined the army assembled at Secundera, on the Jumna, on the 16th October, 1817, and proceeded to march on Gwalior. On the approach of the Army, Scindia reopened negotiations, and a treaty was signed on the 5th November, by which he agreed to all the demands made by the Governor-General, and to assist the operations against the Pindaris. All his troops were to be placed under the orders of the British, and a contingent of 5,000 Irregular Horse furnished for operations against the Pindaris.

### NAGPORE.

Appa Sahib, Bhonsla, the Rajah of Berar, was the ruler of Nagpore; he was in close communication with the Peishwa, though outwardly friendly to the British. He agreed, in

July, 1817, to furnish a contingent to assist in the operations against the Pindaris, and commenced to assemble his army, ostensibly for this purpose. He continued, however, his relations with the Peishwa, now openly hostile, and in consequence, at the request of the Resident, Mr. Jenkins, the British force at Nagpore was considerably increased. Outwardly, Appa Sahib still professed to be friendly, and when the rupture occurred with the Peishwa, he inveighed in the strongest terms against the treachery and want of faith evinced by Bajee Rao. Immediately afterwards, however, he accepted from the Peishwa, on the 24th November, the title of Senaputtee, or General-in-Chief of the Mahratta Armies. The Nagpore troops then took up position, threatening the Residency, and the Resident at once called in all the British troops for its protection, from their camp in cantonments, about three miles away. At sunset on the 25th November the Residency was attacked, and the action, usually known as the Battle of Setabuldee, terminated on the 27th, and resulted in the complete rout of the Rajah's forces, and his inclusion in the ranks of the enemy to be encountered in the ensuing campaign.

### HOLKAR.

Malhar Rao Holkar, the ruler of Indore, was, in 1817, a boy of only eleven years of age. The Regent, a woman named Tulsi Bee, secretly replied to the Governor-General's negotiations by offering to place herself and the young Malhar Rao under British protection, but she was unable to control her ministers and officers. The country was torn by dissensions between the Mahomedan Sirdars and the Mahrattas proper, and the operations eventually undertaken against the State were largely in the interests of the Maharajah.

### AMIR KHAN.

Amir Khan, the ruler of Tonk, originally a Pindari, had risen to power in alliance with Scindia. His troops were probably the best of any State in Central India, being well

organized and equipped. The Governor-General opened negotiations with him, offering to guarantee him in possession of the territories he actually occupied, on the condition that he disbanded his army, and entered into a Treaty of Alliance with the British. Amir Khan eventually agreed to the terms, but his army, consisting of infantry, artillery, and a large force of cavalry, refused at first to surrender their arms. Large sums were advanced to Amir Khan to enable him to discharge their arrears of pay, and ultimately they were induced to submit. A large number were taken into the British service, eight battalions of irregular infantry being formed in addition to a large number who were enlisted into the irregular horse, many joining the Poona Horse. It was not until April, 1818, that the last of Amir Khan's troops were disbanded.

### THE PEISHWA.

Bajee Rao, Peishwa, was the ruler of Poona in 1817, and the nominal head of the Mahratta States. He had been established in Poona in 1803 by General Wellesley, and remained on friendly terms with the British until 1812, when his attempts to subvert his southern Jaghirdars induced the Government to interfere. Matters were settled peacefully, but the Peishwa resented the interference with his sovereign powers, and henceforth endeavoured, in all respects, to combat the wishes of the British authorities. In 1814 the murder of the Guikwar's Envoy by Trimbukji, a favourite servant of the Peishwa, led to the verge of hostilities with the British, who demanded the surrender of Trimbukji. After many delays he was handed over in September, 1815, but escaped from custody in September, 1816, and in the following March appeared at the head of a strong force in the Peishwa's country. Although in nominal rebellion against the Peishwa's Government, there was every reason to suppose that Trimbukji was receiving his secret support, and that the forces were intended for the Peishwa's own use. After many protests, the Resident broke off negotiations, and instructed the British forces, stationed

near Poona, to attack Trimbukji's troops, should occasion offer, at the same time informing the Peishwa that no action was contemplated against him, unless he attempted to leave Poona, or unless his conduct rendered it necessary. After several minor engagements had occurred between detachments of the Poona Brigade and Trimbukji's forces, the Peishwa endeavoured to reopen negotiations, but was informed by the Resident that security for the future would be required before the old conditions of friendship could be renewed, in addition to which the surrender of Trimbukji was again demanded. On the 20th April the Resident decided to strengthen the British forces near Poona by calling in the detachments which had been operating against Trimbukji, and the Peishwa was informed of the action. Discussions continued with the Peishwa and his ministers with no definite result, and on the 10th May instructions were received from Lord Hastings as to the terms which were to be insisted upon. The Resident prepared to execute the instructions, and informed Bajee Rao of their arrival. After some further delay the Peishwa intimated on the 20th May his readiness to agree to the Governor-General's conditions, and as a proof of his sincerity, offered a large reward for the apprehension of Trimbukji, and arrested several members of his family. On the 13th June was signed the Agreement, known as the Treaty of Poona, intended to settle all matters in dispute, and afford security for the future. After the execution of the Treaty, Bajee Rao commenced to absent himself from his capital, and to raise troops, ostensibly for the purpose of co-operating in the ensuing campaign against the Pindaris; but the Resident, suspecting that his real intention was to head a hostile league against us, moved the British forces to Kirkee, and obtained the Bombay European Regiment as a reinforcement, all the troops reaching Kirkee on the 1st November, 1817. After the move to Kirkee every day produced more symptoms of impending hostilities—individual officers travelling were attacked, endeavours were made to induce our Sepoys to desert, their families were persecuted, difficulties were placed in the recruitment of the new Poona Auxiliary Horse, while



the forces of the Peishwa around Poona were increasing rapidly and every day becoming more turbulent and defiant. The Resident, therefore, deemed it desirable to increase his force as much as possible, and with this object sent instructions to a battalion at Sirur to join him, together with a body of 1,000 Auxiliary Horse, which had been forming there under Lieutenant Swanston. They left Sirur on the 5th November, and on the news of their departure being received at Poona, the Peishwa sent an officer to the Resident to demand that they should be sent back, and also the recently arrived European infantry. This was met by a denial of His Highness's right to make such demands. Thereupon the Peishwa at once proceeded to join his army. The Resident then left Poona and joined the British forces at Kirkee. The Residency was plundered and burnt immediately after Mr. Elphinstone's departure. Colonel Burr, who commanded the British troops, advanced about a mile from Kirkee to meet the Resident, and also to enable Major Ford, with a battalion of the newly-formed Poona Auxiliary Infantry to join from Dapuri. The fighting commenced a few minutes after the Resident had joined Colonel Burr, near Kirkee Bridge, and ended in a complete repulse of the Mahratta attack. At the close of the action part of the Auxiliary Horse came in from Sirur, and were followed at daybreak by the infantry battalion and the remainder of the Horse.

The operations against the Pindaris had now developed into a campaign also against the Peishwa, the Raja of Berar, and Holkar, in addition to several smaller rulers, such as Saugor, etc., and the history of the Poona Horse had commenced.



## HISTORICAL RECORDS, 1817—1912

1817

THE POONA HORSE was raised on the 15th July, 1817, subsequent to the Treaty of Poona. For some time Lord Hastings (the Governor-General of India when the regiment was raised) had been anxious to strengthen the British position at Poona, and with this object he wished to abolish the Poona Subsidiary Force (which were in reality the Peishwa's troops), and to substitute for it a Reformed Horse, as it is called in the despatches of that time. By Article VI. of this Treaty the fourth supplementary Article in the Treaty of Bassein (compelling the Peishwa to maintain contingents of Horse and Foot for the service of the British Government) was annulled, and, in lieu thereof, it was determined to raise a reformed body of auxiliary troops under the command of British officers: it was thus that the Poona Horse was called into existence.

The corps was originally constituted for service during the Mahratta War, and the following instructions were issued for its organization :—

CAMP POONA, 15th July, 1817.

A corps of Auxiliary Horse, to consist of 5,000 men and to compose ten Risalahs.

The establishment of each Risalah to consist of—

1 Risaldar.	10 Dafedars.
5 Jamadars.	500 Siledars.

The establishment of the corps to be as follows :—

1 Commanding Officer.	3 Assistant Surgeons,
1 Brigade Major.	10 Resaldars.
1 Paymaster.	50 Jamadars.
5 Commanders of Thousands.	100 Dafedars.
5 Assistant Lieutenants.	5,000 Siledars.

Each Risaldar to have a Nishanburdar, a Nugaraburdar (or Kettle-drummer), and a Karkun, at the expense of Government; each Jamadar a Karkun.

Risaldars to be allowed to muster 70 horses of their own, each Jamadar 40, and each Dafedar 10, making 740 out of each 1,000, the remainder to be raised by the European officers in the following proportions :—

Commanding Officer	...	...	...	...	200
5 Commandants, 100 each	...	...	...	...	500
5 Assistant Commandants, 80 each	...	...	...	...	400
3 Assistant Surgeons, 20 each	...	...	...	...	60
Brigade Major	...	...	...	...	100
Paymaster	...	...	...	...	40

Men of respectability and family will be permitted, for the present, to recruit for promotion on the following terms: Risaldar to raise 500 horses, a Jamadar 100, and a Dafedar 40. No horse or mare to be taken under 13·3 hands high, and mares in foal are not to be entertained.

The men to be Sunis, Shaikhs, Moguls, Pathans, Scindians, Beloochis, Sikhs, Hindustanis, Brahmins, Rajputs, and Maharatta spearmen—men of low caste not to be admitted—Mussalmans, especially Syuds, Sikhs, and Hindustanis, to be preferred. The 260 men attached to the European officers in each 1,000 are to have a lance, a brace of pistols, a sword and shield; the remainder to have 64 in each 100, armed with matchlock, sword and shield. No regular dress to be enforced; but if the men, after they have all been entertained, will consent to wear cloth angrikas or turbans and kumberbunds of a uniform colour, they ought to be encouraged to do so; if not, they must be required to wear some distinguishing mark in war, which must be often changed, to prevent the enemy from taking it up.

The men are not to be enlisted for any given period; after, however, they have been entertained, they will not be allowed to exchange or leave the service without the permission of the European Commandant. The European officers will settle all complaints that may be made to them, either direct or otherwise. The men will, however, be recommended to state their grievances, in the first instance, to any of the Dafedars of their Risalah, who will afterwards accompany them to their immediate Commanding Officer; and it must be the particular study of every officer to gain the confidence of the native officers and privates by every means in his power, and the utmost pains taken to make all ranks look up to him. Commanders of divisions are to decide all disputes as far as may be practicable, through the sentences of punchayets elected as much as possible with the option of the parties concerned in the dispute, unless it should appear to the Commanding Officer that the persons selected are themselves interested parties; on such occasions he must appoint the punchayet himself from

amongst the most respectable and intelligent Siledars of the Risalah. Although the European officer commanding 1,000 must always have the power of dismissing any Barghir, yet, if such punishment can be brought about by a punchayet, so much the better; and it is suggested that all punchayets appointed with a view to punish crime or disorders should consist of Jamadars or Dafedars, with a Risaldar sometimes (not often) as President.

Punchayets, in their decisions, can generally be guided by the judgment of the European officers. They will save him from the odium which might otherwise arise in checking a variety of irregularities. The European officer ought, consequently, to bear in mind that in this service respectability and popularity are the ways to govern, and to attain these, the officer must combine sense, temper, confidence, and liberality.

All sorts of exercises should be encouraged; good shots, good riders, swordsmen, phielwans, &c., should be raised and receive presents. Nautches must be given to the native officers, the kanats to be open that the whole Risalah may consider themselves entertained; on each occasion the officer can retire by 12 or 1 o'clock without giving offence, and he ought not to permit any indecency in his presence.

The Siledar to receive Rs. 40 a month, free of all deductions, except stoppages for European fire-arms with which they may have been supplied; such fire-arms to be returned when a man is discharged and the value paid to him. Barghirs to receive at least Rs. 15, out of which they are to supply accoutrements, arms &c. The owner of the horse finds nothing but the horse and horse-trappings. The troops to be paid monthly, and all payments to be made under the eye of a European officer. The Commanding Officer and Commandants to muster their men at least once a month, and occasionally at other times, to guard against the fraudulent mustering so common amongst natives; no notice to be given of the muster, and all the troops are to be mustered in one day.

The height, marks and colour of each horse to be registered when he is entertained, with the name and caste of the rider.

Shroffs to be attached to divisions on condition of lending money when required; the interest on no account to exceed 2 per cent. per mensem, the principal not to exceed two months' pay.

The value of each horse to be registered when entertained and paid to the owner, if he should be killed or disabled in action or on forced marches on active service.

Gold or silver bangles will be presented to all who may particularly distinguish themselves in action, and other suitable rewards granted to those whose zeal for the service on other occasions may be deemed worthy of such consideration. A horse missing after an action is only to be paid for if the owner is wounded. All improvements are to be brought about by persuasion, and the greatest patience to be shown towards the faults that are to be eradicated.

# 14 HISTORICAL RECORDS OF THE POONA HORSE

The native officers to be treated with utmost respect and attention, and the men with kindness and consideration; no private horseman to be struck on any account whatever. The principles of the service are to respect the prejudices of the natives and to manage them by good treatment. As few direct orders as possible to be issued.

The number of horses to be furnished by officers, their own property, is limited to 15.

Establishment of the whole corps with the monthly pay of each rank :—

No.	Rank.	Monthly.			Total.			Remarks.
		Rs.	a.	p.	Rs.	a.	p.	
1	Commanding Officer	3,000	0	0	3,000	0	0	Inclusive of no contingents.
1	Brigade Major ...	1,000	0	0	1,000	0	0	
5	Commanders of Thousands ...	1,000	0	0	5,000	0	0	
5	Assistants to Thousands ...	500	0	0	2,500	0	0	
3	Assistant Surgeons ...	500	0	0	1,500	0	0	
10	Risaldars ...	500	0	0	5,000	0	0	
50	Jamadars ...	200	0	0	10,000	0	0	
100	Dafedars ...	60	0	0	6,000	0	0	
5,000	Siledars ...	40	0	0	20,000	0	0	Rs. 2,34,000

The following establishments to be kept up by the officers attached on the allowances here assigned :—

	Rs.	a.	p.	Rs.	a.	p.
Commanding Officer ...	...	...	...	560	0	0
10 Jassoos, at Rs. 8 ...	...	...	...	80	0	0
1 Persian writer ...	...	...	...	50	0	0
1 Mahratta writer ...	...	...	...	50	0	0
5 Harkarrahs, at Re. 1 per diem ...	...	...	...	155	0	0
5 Camel-men, at Rs. 15 per mensem ...	...	...	...	75	0	0
1 English writer ...	...	...	...	100	0	0
Stationery ...	...	...	...	50	0	0
Commandants of Thousands ...	...	...	...	220	0	0
For 5 Jassoos, at Rs. 8 ...	...	...	...	40	0	0
„ 2 Karkuns, at Rs. 40 ...	...	...	...	80	0	0
Writer and stationery ...	...	...	...	100	0	0
				220	0	0

Brigade Major—same as Commandants of Thousands.

•Ditto —as Paymaster.

Office establishment—as for a Paymaster.

Assistant Surgeons—Rs. 250 monthly, for a Native Assistant, a Compounder, Dresser, for all medicines and instruments and a supply of country medicines.

By Bombay G.O. dated 29th September, 1817, the following officers were appointed to the Auxiliary Horse, and these ten may be taken as forming the original British staff of the regiment, though several others, including the celebrated "Corygorm" Swanston, were also gazetted shortly after: Major J. Cunningham, Captain John Lewis, Lieutenants John Sherrieff, W. Spiller, Alexander Rind, Ensign W. Clarke, Lieutenants W. H. Sykes, and W. Sterling, Assistant Surgeons Alexander Gordon and C. Jameson.

Major A. McLeod, Lieutenant R. Mansfield, Cornet F. Hunter, and Assistant Surgeon W. Radford were also appointed to the regiment in the early stages of its formation.

The principal part of the Auxiliary Horse was raised in Poona; large levies were also made at Aurungabad, Nagpur, Baroda, and Sirur (then the Head-quarters of the Bombay Army), under Dowlut Rao Dajee Ghorpura, Ameeroooloomrao and Sirdar Bahadur, who served as a native officer in the Nizam's service for three years before he joined that of the British Government. A levy of 500 sabres, raised in Hindoostan by Colonel Skinner, was also incorporated into the Auxiliary Horse, to whom the special rates of pay and the privileges were extended, and the corps was styled the "Poona Auxiliary Horse."

The first division to distinguish itself in the field was the one raised by Lieutenant C. Swanston. This officer adopted a different method to that employed by the other Commanders in recruiting their divisions. He early recognized that, if the instructions contained in the despatch already quoted, dated 15th July, 1817, regarding the provision of horse and horse-trappings by the men, were too closely followed, a number of good men would be lost to the Auxiliary Horse, owing to their inability to mount themselves. He himself, therefore, borrowed the necessary money to purchase a certain number of horses and their equipment of the right stamp, and was thus in a position to take picked men, to whom the other divisions were closed. It may be justly claimed that thus was laid the foundation stone of the present Silladar System. That Swanston's method was successful was proved on the 8th November,

when the division under his command defeated with considerable loss, five hundred of the Peishwa's horse at Talligaum. This was the first serious engagement in which the Poona Horse took part.

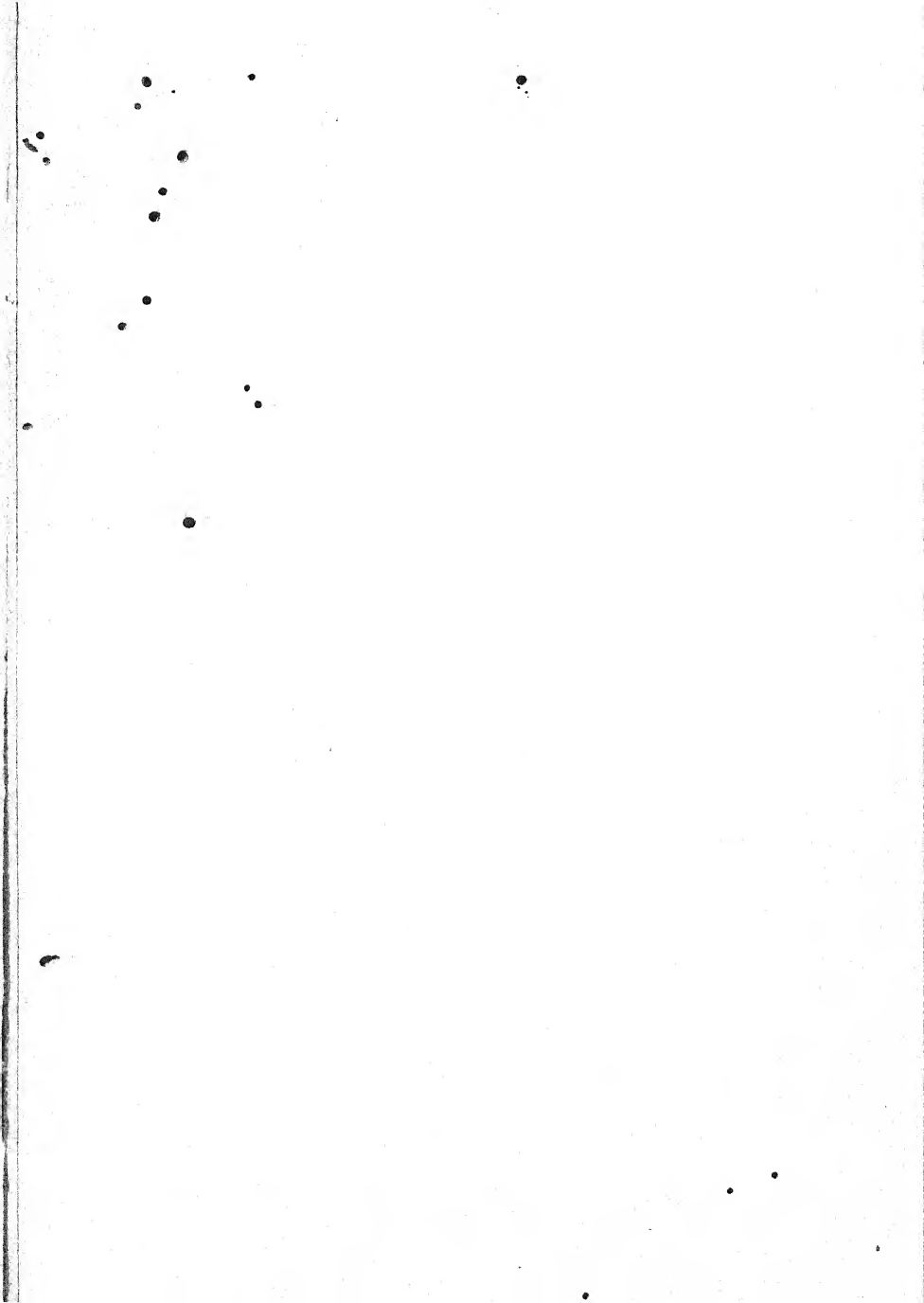
The orders for the raising of the regiment had been issued but a short time, and its formation was still in progress, when its services were called into requisition. One thousand of the Auxiliary Horse joined Colonel Burr's force at Kirkee on the morning of the 6th November, the day after the battle between the British troops and those of the Peishwa.

A portion of the corps was attached to the 4th or Brigadier Lionel Smith's Division of the Army of the Deccan, and was constantly employed.

On the 11th November, about 400 men, under Lieutenant Spiller, successfully attacked a more numerous body of the enemy's cavalry who lost an officer of rank and about 50 killed and wounded; the Auxiliary Horse had Lieutenant Spiller, 8 men and 7 horses wounded; the gallant exertions of this officer were noted in Brigadier-General Lionel Smith's Report, dated 20th November, 1817, and he received the thanks of His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief.

They also took part in the skirmish with the enemy at Poona on the bank of the Moota Moola on the 15th and 16th of the same month, and were present at Punderpore in pursuit of the Peishwa; and between the 25th November and 8th December they lost 2 men and 2 horses killed and had 16 men and 7 horses wounded.

On the 18th November Lieutenant Swanston's Division formed part of a detachment that was despatched from General Smith's camp in pursuit of the Peishwa's guns, which they captured to the number of fifteen, together with their tumbrils and much ammunition, from under the fire of Fort Singhur. His Division formed part of General Smith's force in the pursuit of the Peishwa's army during the remainder of the month of November and the whole of December; during which period there was not a day that the Auxiliary Horse were not engaged in skirmishes with the enemy, and in nightly watching and protecting the followers and cattle. The horses were



## This Column

IS ERECTED TO COMMEMORATE THE DEFENCE OF CORIGAUM BY A  
DETACHMENT COMMANDED BY CAPTAIN STAUNTON, OF THE BOMBAY ESTABLISHMENT,  
WHICH WAS SURROUNDED ON THE 1ST JANUARY, 1818,  
BY THE PAISHWA'S WHOLE ARMY UNDER HIS PERSONAL COMMAND,  
AND WITHESTOOD THROUGHOUT THE DAY A SERIES OF THE MOST OBSTINATE  
AND SANGUINARY ASSAULTS OF HIS BEST TROOPS.

### CAPTAIN STAUNTON,

UNDER THE MOST APPALLING CIRCUMSTANCES,  
PERSEVERED IN HIS DESPERATE RESISTANCE, AND, SECONDED  
BY THE UNCONQUERABLE SPIRIT OF HIS DETACHMENT,  
AT LENGTH ACHIEVED THE SIGNAL DISCOMFITURE OF THE ENEMY  
AND ACCOMPLISHED ONE OF THE PROUDEST TRIUMPHS  
OF THE BRITISH ARMY IN THE EAST.

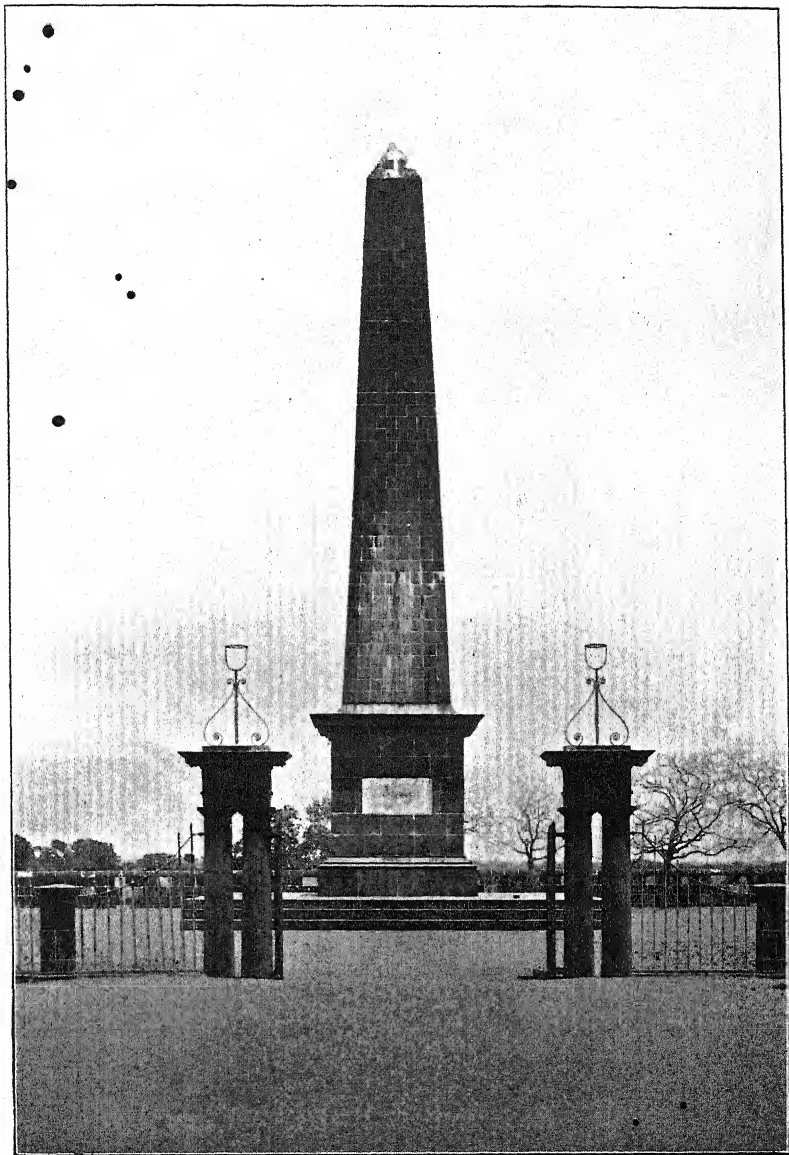
TO PERPETUATE  
THE MEMORY OF THE BRAVE TROOPS,  
TO WHOSE HEROIC FIRMNESS AND DEVOTION IT OWES THE GLORY OF THAT DAY,

THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT  
HAS DIRECTED THE NAMES OF THEIR CORPS AND OF THE KILLED  
AND WOUNDED  
TO BE INSCRIBED ON THIS MONUMENT.

MDCCCXXII.

*[The above is inscribed on the front face of the column, and the other three  
faces bear the names of the killed and wounded.]*





CORIGAUM MONUMENT



seldom unbridled, and never unsaddled. In one of these skirmishes, when covering the rear of the army at the passage of the Neeru River, Lieutenant Swanston's horse was killed under him. During the pursuit of the enemy it was his good fortune to come up with the rearguard of the Peishwa's army, and after a smart resistance to capture a rich palanquin belonging to one of the chiefs, a hundred Beder bullocks, and a number of horses, together with the escort.

Reinforcements having been called for to Poona, a detachment of 300 sabres marched on 31st December from Sirur, under Lieutenant Swanston, with the 2nd Battalion, 1st Native Infantry, 2 guns with 26 European Artillerymen; the whole under Captain Staunton, 1st Native Infantry.

### 1818

The next day they were opposed by the Peishwa's army, consisting of 20,000 horse and 8,000 foot, with 2 heavy guns, and then occurred the memorable and heroic defence of Koregaum, in which the casualties of the Auxiliary Horse amounted to 46 killed and 26 wounded, besides 24 missing. Lieutenant Swanston being wounded. A monument, erected on the spot, bears lasting testimony to the part the regiment took in sharing the dangers and honours of that glorious day.

Lieutenant Swanston was second in command in this action, which has been held up as one of the most brilliant examples of gallantry and perseverance in our Indian annals. The detachment marched from Sirur on the 31st December at eight in the evening, and on the following morning had reached the high ground overlooking Koregaum, twenty-seven miles distant. The whole of the Peishwa's Army was then discovered on the right bank of the Bheema River above the village.

Staunton, with the guns, Infantry, and baggage, pushed on for the walls of Koregaum, whilst Swanston, with his horsemen, covered his flanks and rear from the threatened attacks of the enemy's Cavalry, which had crossed the river, and were pressing on the detachment. The village was scarcely reached

when they were attacked by three divisions of Arab Infantry, supported by numerous bodies of Horse.

In this attack the Poona Horse was completely broken up in their gallant efforts against overwhelming numbers. Their commander himself was dismounted, wounded severely in two places, and taken prisoner by the enemy, in whose hands, however, he remained but a short time, when he was retaken during a successful charge led by Assistant Surgeon Wylie.

The contest continued and lasted until 9 p.m., when the enemy finally evacuated the village. No regular description can be given of such a conflict. It consisted on the one side of impetuous attacks, repulsed by desperate sallies from the other. For when closely pressed, the British Force, in order to gain room, was obliged to charge with the bayonet.

After the retreat of the Peishwa, our troops remained in position at Koregaum till the evening of the 2nd January, when every arrangement having been made for the conveyance of the wounded (some on bullocks, others in blankets slung on poles carried by their comrades), the Force at nightfall retraced its steps to Sirur, and at nine the following morning it entered that place with its guns complete, drums beating, and colours flying.

During the contest, Captain Staunton had contrived to despatch a messenger to Colonel Burr, commanding the troops at Poona, to inform him of his condition, and calling on him for aid. The messenger belonged to the Poona Auxiliary Horse. He managed, with a great deal of dexterity and courage, to pass through several bodies of the enemy on his route to Poona. At one time, he unexpectedly came on their advance picquet in a nullah, and with singular presence of mind, commenced ringing his horse, brandishing his spear, and proclaiming aloud the titles and valour of the Peishwa. The picquet of course taking him for one of their party, did not trouble themselves about him, when he suddenly dashed across the nullah and left them in the greatest surprise and disappointment. The messenger delivered his despatch safely at Poona, but the reinforcements were sent too late to be of any assistance.

The following is a copy of the bill preferred by Lieutenant Swanston for the value of kit lost at Koregaum; the records of the regiment do not show if the bill was passed in whole or in part.

The Honourable M. ELPHINSTONE.....Dr.

For the value of the undermentioned articles lost in action with the enemy at Koregaon, the private property of Lieutenant C. Swanston, Commanding 2nd Division, Poona Auxiliary Horse :—

			Rs.	a.	p.
3	Trunks containing Wearing Apparel ...	...	1,454	0	0
1	Trunk do. do. do. and Military appointments	...	693	0	0
	6 Table, 6 Dessert, 6 Tea Spoons ...	...	88	0	0
	2 Salt Spoons, 1 Soup Ladle ...	...	47	0	0
	6 Table Forks, 2 Tumblers with Covers ...	...	102	0	0
1	Do. containing 1 Goblet, 2 Muffineers with Silver Covers	...	30	0	0
	2 Silver Waiters ...	...	200	0	0
	1 Milk Jug with Cover ...	...	220	0	0
	1 Sugar Basin, 2 Spice Pots ...	...	140	0	0
	1 Hooka, Nicha, and one Chillum ...	...	200	0	0
1	Do. do. China, Glassware, Knives and Forks	...	229	0	0
	1 Silver Case of Mathematical Instruments ...	...	150	0	0
	1 Patent Compass Needle ...	...	50	0	0
	1 Sextant, with artificial horizon ...	...	175	0	0
	1 Silver Ink and Wafer Stand ...	...	35	0	0
1	Do. do. Milson's Encyclopædia ...	...	200	0	0
	Books of various kinds, Mathematical and Military papers	...	450	0	0
	2 Maps of Hindustan ...	...	150	0	0
	2 Maps of Persia and Asia...	...	70	0	0
1	Palanquin ...	...	100	0	0
1	Officers' Tent with Carpets ...	...	400	0	0
3	Rowtees ...	...	250	0	0
2	Tables, 1 Camp Cot, and 2 Chairs ...	...	50	0	0
1	Sword with gold embroidered Scabbard	...	200	0	0
1	Do. plain ...	...	110	0	0
1	Rifle Gun ...	...	250	0	0
1	Pair of Pistols ...	...	110	0	0
1	Do. Double-barrelled Pistols ...	...	50	0	0
1	Gold Watch and Chain with Seals ...	...	500	0	0
8	Camels with their Saddles ...	...	2,450	0	0
1	Tattoo and 10 Bullocks ...	...	235	0	0
Total			9,688	0	0

(Signed) C. SWANSTON, Lieutenant,  
Commanding 2nd Division, Poona Auxiliary Horse.

A General Order was issued to the Army of the Deccan by His Excellency Sir Thomas Hislop, and to the Army in India

by the Marquis of Hastings, announcing "one of the most heroic and brilliant achievements ever recorded in the annals of the Army, which took place at Corygorm, near Poona, on the 1st January." In 1819 both Houses of Parliament passed resolutions thanking the officers and troops of the three Presidencies for their conduct, discipline, and bravery during the Mahratta and Pindaree Campaigns. And in G.O. dated 13th November of the same year, it was ordered that each native commissioned and non-commissioned officer, and sepoy, present at the Battle of Corygorm, be allowed the benefit of five years additional service, in order to entitle them to pension at an earlier date.

The following Divisional Order, by Brigadier-General Smith, C.B., was issued on his being placed in possession of the official account of the defeat of the Peishwa's Army:—

*Division Orders by Brigadier-General Smith, C.B.*

CAMP NEAR SEROOR,  
7th January, 1818.

The Commanding Officer having received the official accounts of an attack made by the Paishwa's Army on a small detachment, commanded by Captain Staunton of the 2nd Battalion, 1st Regiment Bombay Native Infantry, at the village of Corygaum, has great satisfaction in publishing the particulars for general information, and in holding it up to the Force as one of the most brilliant examples of gallantry and perseverance recorded in our Indian annals.

This detachment, consisting of a detail of Madras Artillery and two six-pounders, 1st N.I. about 600 strong, and about 300 Auxiliary Horse, the whole under Captain Staunton, marched from Seroor for Poonah at 8 p.m. on the 31st December, and reached the heights overlooking Corygaon about 10 o'clock in the forenoon, 1st January, from whence the whole of the Paishwa's Army, estimated at 20,000 horse and several thousand infantry, were discovered in the plain, south of the Beema River. Captain Staunton immediately moved upon the village of Corygaum, with the intention of occupying it, and had scarcely succeeded in reaching it with his detachment, when he was attacked in the most determined manner by three divisions of the Paishwa's choicest infantry, supported by immense bodies of horse and the fire of two pieces of artillery. The enemy's troops were stimulated to their utmost exertions by the presence of the Paishwa on a distant height, attended by the principal

Mahrattah Chiefs, who flattered His Highness with the prospect of witnessing the destruction of this gallant handful of British troops.

The enemy obtained immediate possession of the strongest posts of the village, from which it was found impossible to dislodge them, and possession of the remaining part was most obstinately contested from noon till 9 p.m., during which time almost every pagoda and house had been repeatedly taken and retaken, and one of the guns at one time was in possession of the enemy.

Towards the close of the evening, the detachment was placed in the most trying situation; at this period nearly the whole of the artillerymen were killed or wounded, and about one-third of the Infantry and Auxiliary Horse. The exertions which the European officers had been called upon to make in leading their men to frequent charges with the bayonet had diminished their numbers. Lieut. Chisholm of the Artillery and Mr. Assistant-Surgeon Wingate were killed, and Lieutenants Swanston, Pattinson, and Connellon were wounded, leaving only Captain Staunton, and Lieut. Jones, and Mr. Assistant-Surgeon Wyllie nearly exhausted, to direct the efforts of the remaining part of the detachment, who were nearly frantic from the want of water and the almost unparalleled exertions they had made throughout the day without any sort of refreshment, after a fatiguing march of twenty-eight miles.

Under cover of the night, they were enabled to procure a supply of water, and at 9 p.m. the enemy were forced to abandon the village after sustaining an immense loss in killed and wounded.

The British character was nobly supported throughout the whole of this arduous contest by the European officers and a small detail of Madras Artillery.

The Medical Officers also led on the sepoys to charge with the bayonet, the nature of the contest not admitting of their attending to their professional duties; and in such a struggle, the presence of a single European was of the utmost consequence, and seemed to inspire the native soldiers with the usual confidence of success.

At daylight on the 2nd, the enemy were still in sight, but did not renew the attack, although it prevented the troops, whose ammunition was nearly expended, from procuring any supply of provisions.

Captain Staunton, however, made preparations for moving according to circumstances; and the manner in which that officer availed himself of the few resources which remained to him after such a conflict, to prosecute his march, and bring away the numerous wounded of his detachment, is highly praiseworthy.

The detachment moved during the night of the 2nd upon Sefoor, which they reached at 9 o'clock on the forenoon of the 3rd, having had no refreshments from the 31st December.

Captain Staunton brought in nearly the whole of the wounded,

9-8486

and both the guns and colours of the regiments, which the enemy had vainly hoped to present as trophies to the Paishwa.

In concluding these details, the Commanding Officer begs to offer to Captain Staunton and the whole of the European and Native commissioned and non-commissioned officers and privates engaged at Corygaum, his best thanks for their noble exertions and exemplary patience under every species of privation, which he will not fail to bring to the notice of Government and His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief.

The Commanding Officer deems it proper to record the names of the officers engaged in this brilliant affair:—

*Madras Artillery.*

Lieutenant Chisholm, killed.

Assistant Surgeon Wyllie.

*2nd Battalion 1st Native Infantry.*

Captain Staunton, commanding detachment.

Lieutenant and Adjutant Pattinson, wounded and since dead.

Lieutenant Connellon, wounded.

Lieutenant Jones, 10th Regiment, doing duty 2nd Battalion 1st N. I.

Assistant Surgeon Wingate, killed.

*Auxiliary Horse.*

Lieutenant Swanston, Madras establishment, wounded.

In February General Sir J. Malcolm, Political Agent, enrolled Dalil Khan, a Chief of Meywar, with a number of his best followers, in the Poona Auxiliary Horse. This Chief had for eight years desolated the country about Jawud. Sir J. Malcolm, about this time, also sent eleven hundred of the best Horse, in the employ of Mulhar Rao Holkar, to join the same corps.

Seven hundred sabres were present, on April 3rd, with the force under Brigadier-General Pritzler, at the taking of the Fort of Basota. On the 17th April a portion of the regiment, under Brigade-Major Moore, with 3 companies of Infantry, attacked a party of 500 of the enemy, protected by three stockades near Indapore, and dispersed them; in the retreat that followed the Poona Horse captured the Dewan, and their conduct on this occasion was most favourably noticed in Colonel Prothero's report to the Adjutant-General. This party was also present during the siege of the Fort of Ryghur, which lasted



fourteen days; the zeal and gallantry of all engaged was brought to the notice of the Right Honourable the Governor in Council in a letter, dated 15th May, 1818, from General Sir M. Nightingale.

Lieutenant Mansfield, Auxiliary Horse, commanded a small force composed of 100 Infantry, 80 Seebundies and 150 sabres of the regiment, ordered from Sewapore to take possession of the Forts of Pertabgurh and Muckrungarh on the 10th April; the Force returned to Satara on the 16th, on completion of the duty.

The following is the return of Ordnance and Ammunition taken in the Fort of Pertabgurh :—

Six-pounders...	...	...	...	...	3
Four-pounders	...	...	...	...	3
Between one- and two-pounders	...	...	...	...	9
Gingalls	...	...	...	...	21
Powder	...	...	...	...	280 maunds.

Also large quantities of shells, grape-shot, round-shot, etc. The above serviceable and in good condition.

(Signed) ROBERT MANSFIELD,  
Lieutenant P.A. Horse, Commanding Detachment.

PERTABGURH,  
14th May, 1818.

The following extract from a despatch from the Honourable Mr. Elphinstone, the Commissioner, to His Excellency the Most Noble the Marquis of Hastings, dated the 24th May, 1818, describes the fall of Solapore :—

Brigadier-General Monro arrived before Solapore on the 9th inst. and found 5,000 Infantry, the principal of whom were Arabs and regular sepoys, encamped under the walls, with 14 guns and 800 Cavalry. Next morning the General carried the pettah by escalade, after a prolonged opposition from the Arabs. The Infantry and Horse moved down during the contest to attack the reserve and were charged by the Brigadier-General, and driven back with the loss of three of their guns and many men. The Commander was wounded and one of their principal chiefs killed. This defeat so disheartened the Infantry that they quitted their camp in the afternoon and commenced their retreat towards the River Seena; but General Monro, being apprised of this movement, immediately determined to detach his handful of Cavalry, under Brigadier-General Pritzer, to cut off their retreat. The Cavalry, consisting of three troops of His Majesty's 22nd Light Dragoons and 400 Poona Auxiliary Horse, soon overtook the enemy, and charged

them with such vigour that they gave way and fled in all directions. Nothing could be more complete than the destruction of this body—near 1,000 men were left dead on the field, great numbers of the fugitives were wounded, and of those that escaped many were plundered, and even put to death by the villagers. Notwithstanding this disaster, the Fort of Solapore stood a bombardment for one day, and did not surrender till the breaching battery was ready to open.

Major McLeod, with a party of Auxiliary Horse, on 20th May, captured the Subedar of Joonier with some of his followers, taking 25 horses and 4 camels; and on the same day a party under Lieutenant Rind surprised and cut up a picquet of the enemy's Cavalry at Khandesh.

Cornet Kaye, with the Hindustani division of the regiment, joined the Force before Malligaum on 28th May, having marched 113 miles in three days. Colonel Cunningham, Commandant, with a force composed of detachments of the Auxiliary Horse and 6th Regiment N.I., took possession of the Fort of Pritchilgurh on the 14th June. The following is his report on this affair, dated Camp Pritchilgurh, 10th June, 1818:—

I have the honour to acquaint you, for the information of General Smith, that the detachment under my command encamped yesterday as near to Pritchilgurh as the jungle would permit, and shortly afterwards occupied a high hill, which completely commands that place. I immediately sent to the Killadar requesting him to deliver up the fort, but without effect. In the course of the day Captain Spiller went over, and was admitted under a flag of truce, and did everything in his power to persuade the garrison to comply with my demand, which they promised to do the following day. As, however, I put little faith in their assurances, I sent back during the night to the top of Moreghurry Gaut, for one of the guns which had been carried up the day before, and owing to the exertions of the detachment, and the assistance that had been sent me from Sattara, I had the pleasure of seeing it brought up, and mounted upon the hill which we occupied, by 2 o'clock. I then warned the Killadar of the consequences that would ensue, if the place were not immediately put in my possession, and on receiving no satisfactory answer, commenced hostilities. The first two shells seemed to alarm them a good deal, but, unfortunately, they had so much cover that it was impossible to reach them; sensible of this, they rose up, the moment our gun was fixed, and set us at defiance. Under such mortifying circumstances, the only way I thought it possible, to get into the place, was by blowing open the gate by musketry, which service Captain Spiller, in the most gallant manner,

offered to perform. Fifty men from the 6th Regiment and a party from the Auxiliary Horse were immediately formed, and advanced to the gateway on the opposite side to the tower. Fearful that Captain Spiller might be overpowered by numbers, I joined him with a reinforcement, and had soon the happiness of seeing a hole blown through the gate, sufficiently large to admit one man at a time. The enemy were panic struck, and fled in all directions, and in a few moments the fort was in our possession. The Rajah and his family were made prisoners and are now in camp. The enemy had five men killed and the Subadar of the Fort wounded. I ought to have mentioned that during the advance to the gateway the gun was well directed by Lieutenant Roe, which no doubt prevented the enemy from occupying that part of the works.

One thousand two hundred sabres served with the Force under Sir Lionel Smith, K.C.B., in pursuit of the Peishwa, and were present at the Cavalry action of Ashtee, which resulted in the defeat of the Peishwa and the capture of the Rajah of Satara. Lieutenant Rind and Cornet Kaye's Divisions were present at the taking of Malligaum, and the affairs at Baitewah, Amulneir and Burchee in Khandesh, and the capture of Asurgurh and various minor affairs. A detachment under Captain Swanston, from Malligaum, after a march of seventy miles in eighteen hours, captured the noted rebel, Trimbuckjee Danglia, at the village of Ahirgaon, in Khandesh. Their services were acknowledged by the Government of India in the following terms:—

To the Honourable MOUNTSTUART ELPHINSTONE,

&c., &c., &c.,

Secret Department.

SIR,—I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Despatch, dated 15th ultimo, announcing the apprehension of Trimbuckjee Danglia at Ahirgaon, on the morning of the 29th June, by a party of the Poona Auxiliary Horse under Captain Swanston.

2. The Governor-General in Council has instructed me to express his high satisfaction at the receipt of this intelligence. To the active and judicious conduct of Captain Briggs in immediately despatching Captain Swanston to the town where he had learned that Trimbuckjee Danglia was concealed, as well as to the prudence of the measures which he concerted for arresting him should he have escaped from Ahirgaon, His Excellency in Council feels that much praise is due. The exertions of Captain Swanston and his party in rapidly marching from Malligaum to the place of Trimbuckjee's concealment, and the complete success which attended

their extraordinary activity, are also eminently entitled of the applause of the Government. I am desired to request that you will convey to both those officers the assurance of the approbation of the Governor-General in Council and of his sense of their distinguished conduct.

I have, &c.,  
(Signed) JOHN ADAM,  
Chief Secretary to Government.

FORT WILLIAM,  
17th August, 1818.

At the time of his capture all Trimbuckjee's movable property was seized by Captain Swanston. The value of this was estimated at something over two lacs of rupees, or about £24,000. This amount Captain Swanston was authorized, by his superior officer, to take and divide amongst himself and his party. As was not infrequent at the time, this action led to a considerable amount of acrimonious discussion, the Army Prize Committee laying claim to the whole of the amount. In the end, however, Captain Swanston's action was confirmed by the Marquis of Hastings.

The strength of the regiment at this time, as appears from a return dated 1st September, 1818, was 6,440 sabres of all ranks, and it was divided into eight divisions, the whole under Lieutenant-Colonel J. Cunningham, and they were armed with sabres, lances, matchlocks, and blunderbusses, many of which were taken at the fall of Malligaum and issued to the corps.

## 1819

On the dissolution of the Mahratta Confederacy by the surrender of the Peishwa, and the comparative tranquillity of the country consequent on the same, considerable reductions were ordered, and by 1st October the number of divisions were reduced to 4 and the number of sabres to 2,784.

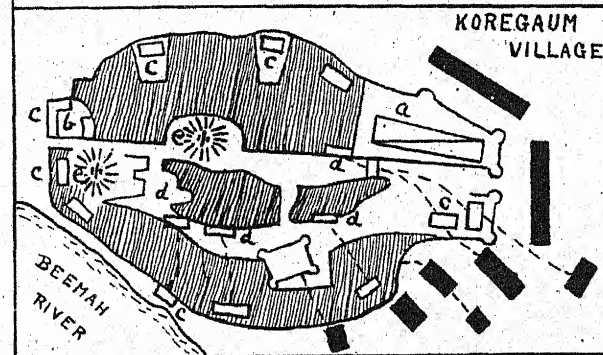
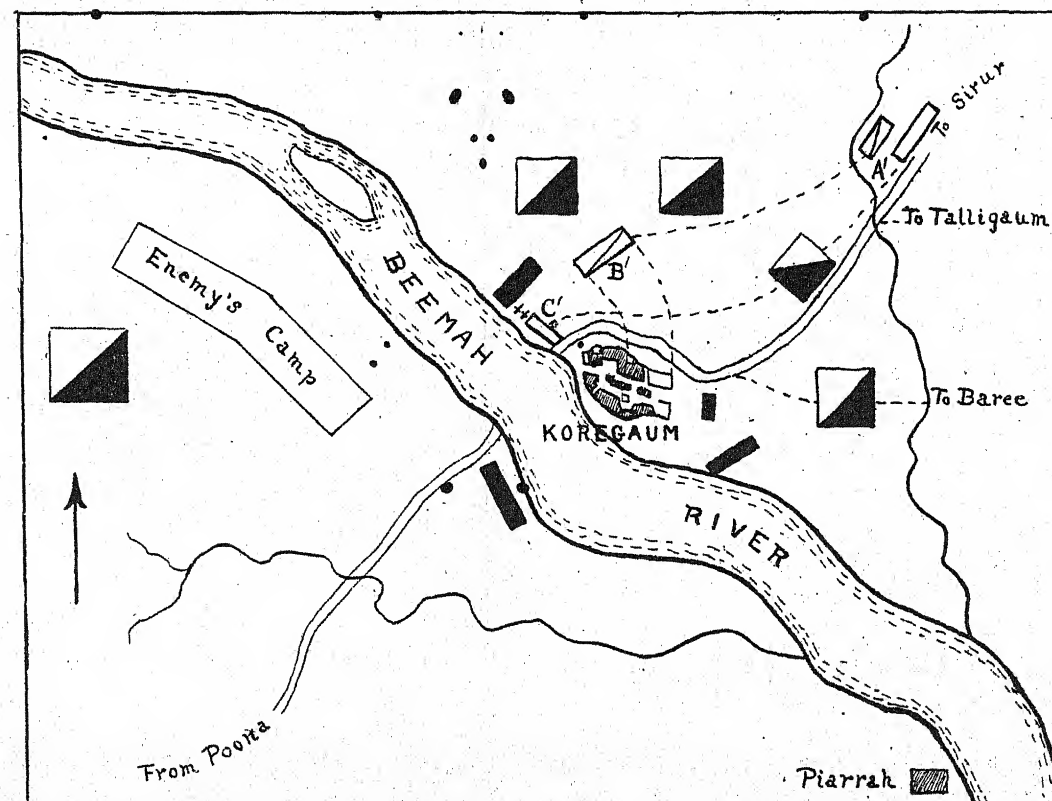
From 1st December the pay of the undermentioned ranks was reduced as under:—

Jamadars,	from	Rs. 200	to	Rs. 150	monthly.
Dafedars	"	60	"	55	"
Sowars	"	40	"	35	"

Risaldars' Karkoons were discontinued. This did not affect the pay of the men of Colonel Skinner's levy.

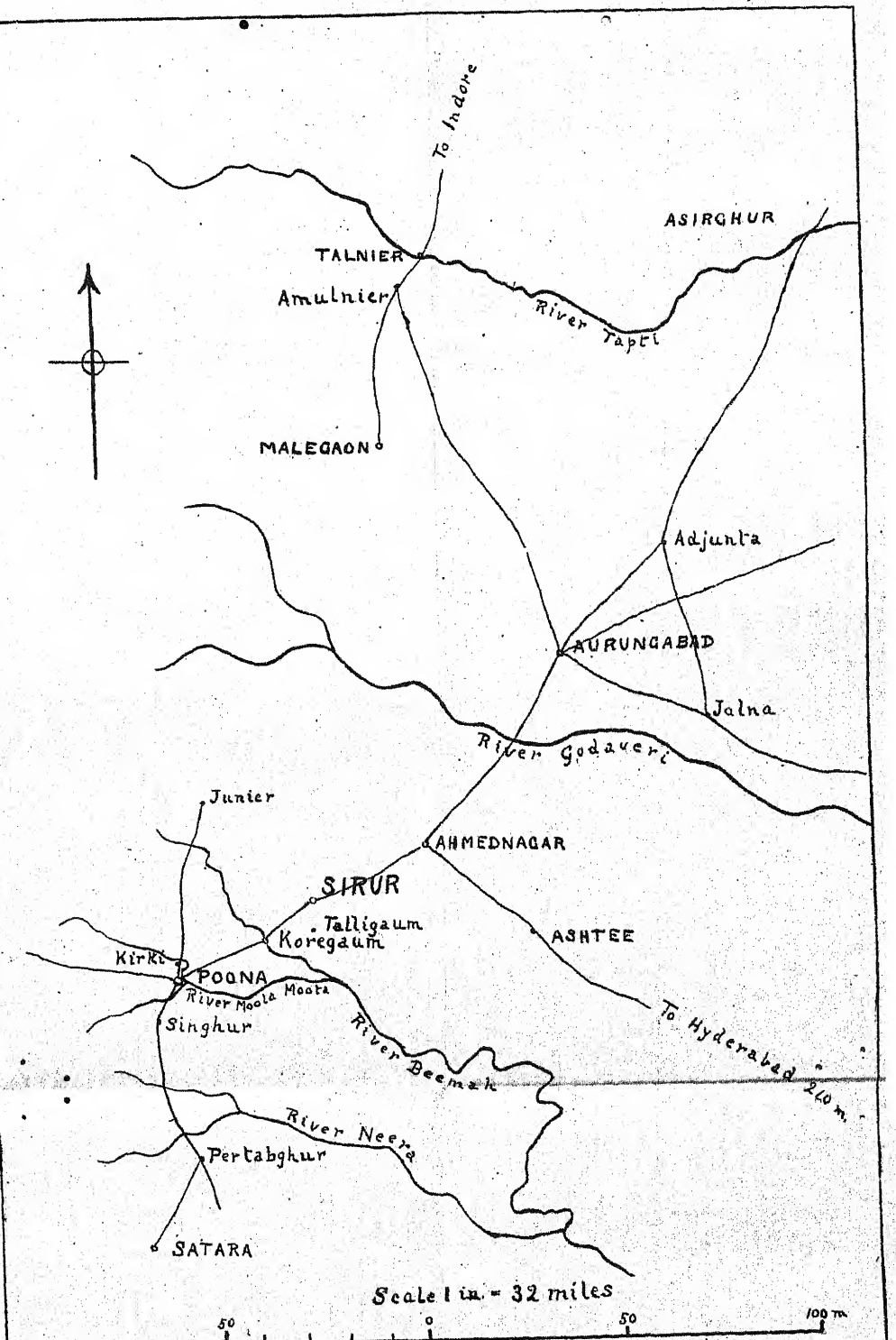
# DEFENCE of KOREGAUM

## Outline Map of Country in the Vicinity of SIRUR



- The Poona Horse
- 2nd Bombay Infantry
- Enemy's Cavalry
- Enemy's Infantry

- A' Detachment on the march when it discovers the Enemy.
- B' Poona Horse formed to hold in check the first body of the Enemy's Horse which crossed the river whilst Infantry took up a position on the bank of the river where it opened fire on bodies of the Enemy's Horse on the other side.
- C' First position of Infantry and guns.
- a. Position occupied by Poona Horse dismounted.
- b. Enclosure in which followers and baggage took refuge.
- c. Infantry positions in the village.
- d. Second position occupied by Infantry.
- e. Gun positions.





The following return gives the names of the officers doing duty with the regiment at this time, and their services in the late war:—

LIST OF EUROPEAN OFFICERS BELONGING TO, AND DOING DUTY WITH, THE AUXILIARY HORSE.

Rank and Name.	Remarks.
Lieut.-Colonel J. Cunningham	Accompanied General Smith's Army to the southward, after the capture of Poona, in pursuit of the Peishwa, and, on the fall of Satara, formed part of the Light Division.
Captain J. Sheriff ... ..	
Lieutenant W. Clark ... ..	
Assistant-Surgeon H. Radford	
Captain W. Spiller ... ..	Accompanied General Smith's Force from Sirur to Kirkee, and, after the capture of Poona, to the southward in pursuit of the Peishwa, and, on the fall of Satara, formed part of the Light Division.
Major A. McLeod ... ..	
Surgeon A. Gordon ... ..	Accompanied General Smith's Division until the capture of Satara, and afterwards joined the Reserve under General Pritzler.
Lieutenant R. Mansfield ... ..	
Captain C. Swanston ... ..	Accompanied General Smith's Army to the southward, after the capture of Poona, in pursuit of the Peishwa, and afterwards present with 2nd Battalion, 1st Regiment, at the battle of Koregaon.
Captain J. Lewis ... ..	
Bt.-Captain J. Brough ... ..	Employed in various duties at and near Poona.
Lieutenant A. Rind ... ..	With European Regiment.
Cornet J. H. Haye ... ..	Actively employed in Khandesh.
F. H. Hunter ... ..	
Assistant Surgeon C. Jameson	A prisoner of war.
	Chiefly employed with the Auxiliary Infantry.

(Signed) J. CUNNINGHAM, Lieut.-Colonel,  
Commanding Poona Auxiliary Horse.

CAMP CHINCHONY,  
5th March, 1819.

1820

From 1st July the allowance of officers was reduced as follows:—



## 28 HISTORICAL RECORDS OF THE POONA HORSE

Lieut.-Colonel Cunningham, Commanding allowance (exclusive of office establishment)	...	...	Rs. 1,000 monthly.
Commandants of Divisions (ditto)	...	...	750 "
Assistant (ditto)	...	...	400 "
Assistant Surgeons	...	...	300 "
Risaldar (Col. Skinner's levy excepted)	...	...	400 "

### 1821

A detachment of the regiment was employed with the force under Major Salter against the Bheels in Khandesh.

### 1822

On the 7th August, 1822, the following G.G.O. was published:—

The Governor in Council takes advantage of this occasion to acknowledge the merits of Lieutenant-Colonel Cunningham, in forming the Auxiliary Horse, and bringing that extensive body to the high sense of discipline and efficiency to which it attained. The Governor in Council entertains a high sense of the services of Lieutenant-Colonel Cunningham, and of the zeal and gallantry displayed by him on all occasions.

### 1824

Two hundred Sabres, under Captain Spiller, were present at the storm and capture of Kithoor.

### 1826

A troop, consisting of 2 Dafedars and 42 Sowars, was sent to Persia as an escort to the British Envoy, Lieutenant-Colonel Macdonald; 1 Dafedar and 16 Sowars returned to Bombay by the end of this year, in consequence of great difficulty being apprehended in making arrangements for foraging so large a party during the coming winter at Tabreez. On their departure the Envoy presented the Dafedar, Fayaz Khan, with a sword and a horse. The remainder were on escort duty until the year 1828, and many records in the regiment testify to the zeal and devotion of these men to their duty under most severe trials; amongst others, the following extracts of letters may be cited:—



From the COMMANDANT of the Escort,

To Captain SPILLER, Commanding Poona Auxiliary Horse.

I am directed by the Envoy to state that, on the departure of these men, after a two years' tour of duty, in very unsettled times, and under the disadvantages of a severe and trying foreign climate, he cannot express himself too highly in approbation of their steady and respectable behaviour, their zeal, attention, and fidelity when exposed to considerable hardships. Dafedar Mahomed Ghous Khan was formerly recommended to Government, and his subsequent perseverance in the same meritorious line of conduct, which then excited observation, has gained him, as a mark of esteem, from H.R.H. Abbas Mirza, the title of Khan of Persia, and induced his being recommended, a second time, to the favourable consideration of the Honourable the Governor in Council.

Extract from a letter from Lieutenant-Colonel Macdonald, Envoy in Persia, to the Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay, dated Tabreez, 18th April, 1828, reporting the departure of his escort:—

In dispensing with the service of these men, after a two years' tour of duty with me in Persia, I cannot express myself too highly in approbation of their meritorious conduct. The officer at their head, Mahomed Ghous Khan, was, on a former occasion, brought by me to the notice of the late Governor, and his subsequent maintenance of the zealous and very respectable character, which gained him that recommendation, has now procured for him, as a mark of esteem, from his Royal Highness Abbas Mirza, the title of Khan of Persia, which, I trust, will be accompanied by some further reward from his own Government as a compensation for his most exemplary behaviour. The Sowars have been employed with me in very unsettled times, especially during the late troubles which have visited this country, under the occupation of Ayerbigan, by a hostile force, when they have been constantly brought in collision with, at one time, the unruly tribes comprising the Persian Army, and at others with the Russians, differing from them in every usage and idea, while their uniformly steady deportment, combined with a zealous performance of duty, has ever given the utmost satisfaction, and induces me particularly to recommend them to the notice of the Honourable the Governor in Council.

Dafedar Mahomed Ghous Khan, for his eminent services on this occasion, was specially promoted to Jamadar, and each Sowar was presented with one month's pay as a gratuity.

About the same time as the troop left for Persia, a portion of the corps was employed in Cutch against banditti under

the command of Jamadar Yenkut Rao, whose services were made most honourable mention of by the Resident in Cutch, and met with the entire approbation of the Officer Commanding the Cutch Subsidiary Force.

On the demobilization of the Cutch Field Force this detachment was left in Cutch for garrison duty.

On the 11th August the following Bombay General Order was published :—

The following promotions are made in the Poona Auxiliary Horse: Duffedar Syyed Mahomed Khan, of the 1st Division, who gallantly led an Escalade at Linakair in Candeish, in 1819, against some Arabs, on which occasion he was desperately wounded, and his brother and nephew killed; and Duffedar Namdar Khan, of the 3rd Division, who has been particularly mentioned for bravery and general good conduct against the Bheels in Candeish, but more especially on the 22nd May and 4th June last, to be Jemadars.

## 1828

The strength of the corps was this year reduced to 1,132 Sabres.

In June Captain Spiller, with a party of the regiment, succeeded in inducing the surrender of the noted rebel Oomea, with his followers, for which he received the thanks of Government conveyed in the following letter :—

No. 725.

POLITICAL DEPARTMENT.

BOMBAY CASTLE, 7th June, 1828.

SIR,—I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter dated 2nd instant, relative to the surrender of Oomea and his gang.

\* \* \* \* \*

I am, at the same time, instructed to observe that Oomea's surrender and the conviction of the principal servants of your Collectorate (both events of importance as connected with the peace of the country) are chiefly to be attributed to the activity, intelligence, and energy of Captain Spiller, and to that confidence which the natives are disposed to place in his character, and the Governor in Council directs me to state that Captain Spiller's conduct, in both cases, has afforded him the highest satisfaction.

I have, &c.,

(Signed) W. NEWNHAM,  
Chief Secretary to Government.

## 1830

The following G.G.O. was published this year, No. 330, dated 29th September, 1830 :—

Captain W. Spiller is permitted to resign the command of the Poona Auxiliary Horse from 1st proximo, preparatory to proceeding on furlough to Europe.

The following arrangements connected with the corps will have effect from the same date :—

The distinction of 1st and 2nd Division will cease, and the whole corps to be under the command of one officer.

Captain R. Mansfield to command the Poona Auxiliary Horse, on his present allowance.

Captain M. Stack, 3rd Light Cavalry, to be attached to Poona Auxiliary Horse, on a staff salary of Rs. 300 per mensem.

On this the following—the last Brigade Order by a Commandant of the Poona Auxiliary Horse—was issued :—

*Brigade Order by Captain Spiller, 30th November, 1830.*

Captain Spiller having resigned the command of the Horse from the 1st instant, all reports and returns are henceforth to be made to Captain Mansfield.

Captain Spiller cannot give over charge of a corps in which he has served so many years, without expressing his warmest thanks and approbation to all ranks composing it ; to say they have ever faithfully and willingly performed every part of their duty would be little praise ; they have, on every occasion, vied with each other in upholding the honour of the corps and the interests of the British Government : their general conduct in field and garrison has been always such that, Captain Spiller can with truth declare, the only annoyances he has ever experienced has been from the constant discharges and reductions which he has been called on to make ; and the distress which they have necessarily brought on many individuals has been great indeed, and which it has been impossible for the Commanding Officer in any way to alleviate. It is now some years since Captain Spiller had the honour of leading the Auxiliaries against an enemy ; but, whenever that was the case, their conduct was brave and distinguished ; whilst in garrison they have ever been remarked for quietness and good order.

To Captain Mansfield Captain Spiller offers his best thanks for his support and assistance, and his zeal and alacrity has, on all occasions, been most conspicuous for the honour of the corps and the good of the service.

To Risaldar Dowlut Rao Gorepora his thanks are particularly due ;

added to his being a soldier of the most distinguished bravery, his talents and conduct are such as to render him, on all occasions, an officer of the greatest use. His conduct to his men has always been marked with kindness and liberality; hence he is deservedly beloved by them, and, from his rank and influence, he is no less respected by all classes of men not belonging to the Army, and which he has, on many occasions, turned to account for the public service, and I look on him as one of the best soldiers I have ever seen—one of the most valuable men and most faithful servant the Government possesses.

To Risaldar Kisson Sing, who with his men was sent from Hindustan by that distinguished officer, Colonel Skinner, Captain Spiller offers his most grateful thanks, and he cannot pay them a higher compliment than when he assures them that they have, on all occasions, maintained with honour and credit the high name for which Skinner's Horse are known throughout India, and who are, on all occasions, as much respected by their friends as they are feared by their enemies.

It would be invidious to select any of the Jamadars or Dafedars for particular praise, suffice it to say they have one and all, nobly supported the honour of the corps whenever opportunities have offered, and, in contact with the enemy, have always conducted themselves as becomes good soldiers.

In taking leave of the corps, Captain Spiller bids them individually farewell; he will never cease to recollect with pleasure the many happy days he has passed in command of so distinguished a body, and which he will ever reckon amongst the proudest of his existence, and should hereafter a favourable opportunity occur of his again serving with them, he would seize it with pride and pleasure.

Jamadar Mohamed Ghous Khan was this year appointed to command the Southern Mahratta Contingent, with the rank of Risaldar, and extra pay at Rs. 150 a month.

This year the strength of the regiment was fixed at 800 Sabres, and the Headquarters ordered to be located at Sirur by the 15th September.—(Letter No. 263, dated 16th August, 1830, from the Secretary to Government.)

### 1831

The following despatch, No. 3612, dated Bombay Castle, 13th October, 1831, shows that the question of orderly and escort duty for Sowars of a Cavalry Regiment, was one which required watching, even at this early date:—

The Right Honourable the Governor in Council having directed his attention to the actual distribution of the Poona Auxiliary Horse, is of opinion that the efficiency of the corps is materially affected by its being broken up into small parties in various parts of the various Collectorates. His Lordship in Council considers that one hundred men for the Poona Collectorate, and the same number for the Collectorate of Ahmednagar would, if properly distributed, be quite sufficient for the protection of the country, particularly as there would, at all times, be a sufficient force at the Headquarters at Sirur to move at a moment's notice, in case of necessity. The Principal Collector at Ahmednagar and the Junior-Principal Collector at Poona will be informed to this effect. The Governor in Council does not consider it necessary to make any change in the numbers now in Khandesh, that province being so open to foreign plunderers. It appears to His Lordship in Council to be necessary that the duties to be performed by the men, while they are detached, should be better defined than they are now. They have frequently, His Lordship in Council understands, been employed on duties which it never was the intention of Government they should perform, such as summoning people, carrying notes, and attending the Mamletdars when they move. The Collectors will be informed that duties of this nature must be performed by Peons and Sebundeas. Instructions will at the same time be issued to the Collectors that no native servant is to have authority to move a party of the Auxiliary Horse, unless for the purpose of escorting treasure or prisoners from the district to the Hozeor, or in case of intelligence of a gang or highway robbery; and that no party, less than five in number, shall ever be detached when they are likely to be absent more than a day, as in even a party of this number every man must be on sentry five hours out of the twenty-four. Since the disturbances to the southward in 1825, it has been the custom, His Lordship in Council understands, to furnish the Session Judges, when on circuit, with escorts from the Auxiliary Horse, the country being perfectly quiet now the practice will be discontinued. The Junior-Principal Collector at Poona will be instructed to order the 11 Horse at present with him to join the Headquarters of the Corps, and the party employed under Captain Mackintosh will also be recalled to Headquarters. With respect to the other twenty-four men stationed at Poona, and the twenty men stationed at Ahmednagar, the Collectors will be called on to report why so many Irregular Horse are required in the centre of the two large cantonments, His Lordship in Council being decidedly of opinion that they might be sent where their services are more required. His Lordship in Council is pleased to direct that you will detach thirty more men to Cutch, where they are much wanted, a measure which the arrangements above detailed will place in your power, while you will still retain a respectable force at Headquarters, ready for any duty requiring their services.

1833

The following Bombay General Order, by the Commander-in-Chief, Camp Sirur, was published on the 9th January :—

The Commander-in-Chief has been much gratified by the appearance of the Poona Auxiliary Horse. Their dexterity in skirmishing and the condition of the horses are no less creditable than the general good conduct of this corps, both at the Regimental Headquarters and on detachment. The Lieutenant-General's thanks are due to the Commanding-Officer, Captain Mansfield, and he is requested to make His Excellency's satisfaction known to all his Officers, Native Officers, Non-Commissioned Officers and men.

During this and the preceding year a detachment was employed with the Parkur Field Force.

1836

Two hundred Sabres formed part of a force, under Captain J. Outram, for the suppression of Sooraj Mull and his gang. This detachment was commanded by Lieutenant Thomas Edmunds, and their services were acknowledged in the following letter, dated 27th April, 1827, from Captain Outram to Lieutenant Edmunds :—

I beg that you will yourself accept, and convey to the Officers and men of the Horse under your command, my thanks for the very zealous assistance you have afforded me during your service in Myhee Counta.

Detachments also served against banditti in the direction of Poorundhur and Punderpore, and various other bands in the Poona, Nuggar, Khandesh, and other districts, their detachments extending from Dharwar to the south along the range of Ghât from Sapoor to Joonier and Nassick, thence to Dhulia. There were also detachments in Cutch.

As an instance of the rapid movements of the corps when occasion required, it may be mentioned that, on the rising of the Bheels in Khandesh, a detachment of 150 men, collected from Joonier, Nassick, and Sirur, marched to Dhulia, a distance of 200 miles, in five days, and a wing of a Native Regiment, which was ordered at the same time, did not reach

Malligaum under a month. On a former occasion, too, Captain Spiller, with 100 Sabres, marched 150 miles against a band in the Punderpore direction in three marches, capturing the head of the band and dispersing his adherents. From this period until the breaking out of the first Afghan War the regiment was employed in various duties in the districts of the Deccan, Dharwar, Baroda, the Concan and Cutch, their services being used for escorting prisoners and treasure, patrolling roads and apprehending delinquents, and various other duties connected with the peace of the country.

This year the corps ceased to be under the administration of the Government of Bombay and was placed under the orders of the Commander-in-Chief. Flint carbines took the place of matchlocks.

### 1838

Owing to the alarming increase of Russian intrigues in Persia and Afghanistan, in the year 1838 the question arose as to whether England or Russia was henceforth to exercise a predominating influence over those countries, which were united, after the death of Nadir Shah, up to 1809, under the dominion of Shah Abdallee and his successors, latterly under the name of the Kingdom of Kabul. In order to settle the question definitely it was decided to despatch a Field Force to occupy the two capitals of Kandahar and Kabul, with the intermediate territory of the Ghiljee tribes and the fortress of Guzni, and to restore the country of the Afghans (Herat excepted), ruled by the Ameer Dost Mahomed Khan, to Shah Shooja-ool Moolk.

A Force from the Bombay Presidency, 6,000 strong, and one from the Bengal, 10,000 strong, were mobilized for this purpose. The former was under the command of the Commander-in-Chief of the Presidency, Sir John Keane, and the Headquarters and 300 men of the Poona Auxiliary Horse were told off as the irregular Cavalry of the contingent. They were commanded by Major D. Cunningham, and were subsequently reinforced by 200 more from the Cutch detachment. The original 300 men were collected from the various

outposts in the Deccan and Khandesh, and to replace them a levy of an equal number of men was ordered to be raised in January, 1839, and these were completed by the following June. This was officially known as the "New Levy," until its formal incorporation in the Poona Horse in 1847. The regiment embarked at Bombay on the 17th and 18th December, and joined the army of invasion, known as the Army of the Indus, the supreme command of which was now given to Sir John Keane.

### 1839

The march to Kandahar, via the Bolan and Quetta, was uneventful, though attended with great hardships, the horses especially suffering severely from the want of water. Kandahar was occupied on the 27th April. On the 27th June the Army marched from Kandahar towards Kabul, the Commander-in-Chief's intention being to take Ghuzni *en route*. The Force advanced in three columns. The third column, under Major-General Wiltshire, consisting of Brigadier Baumgardt's brigade of Infantry, the battery of Bombay 24-pounder howitzers, and the Poona Auxiliary Horse, of whom there were 14 Non-Commissioned Officers and 276 Sowars reported fit for duty.

On the 23rd July Ghuzni fell, the Kabul Gate being blown in by Captain Thomson of the Engineers, and the city then carried at the point of the bayonet.

In his General Orders, dated Headquarters, Ghuzni, 23rd July, 1839, Sir John Keane, Commander-in-Chief of the Army of the Indus, says:—

In sieges and storming it does not fall to the lot of Cavalry to bear the same conspicuous part as the other two arms of the profession. On this occasion Sir John Keane is happy to have an opportunity of thanking Major General Thackwell and the officers and men of the Cavalry Division under his orders, for having successfully executed the directions given to sweep the plain, and to intercept fugitives of the enemy attempting to escape from the fort in any direction around it, and had an enemy appeared for the relief of the place, during the storming, His Excellency is fully satisfied that the several regiments of this fine arm would have distinguished themselves, and that the opportunity alone was



wanting. . . . His Excellency will only add, no Army that has ever been engaged in a campaign deserves more credit than that which he has the honour to command, for patient, orderly, and cool conduct under all circumstances, and Sir John Keane is proud to have the opportunity of thus publicly acknowledging it.

After the fall of Ghuzni, Dost Mahomed fled to the north, and a specially selected party of officers and men, the most resolute, intelligent, and active in the Army, were despatched in pursuit. Captain Outram was given the command, and 25 Sowars of the regiment, under Captain Keith Erskine, accompanied the Force, which consisted of 10 British officers and 150 Sabres. The pursuit was carried out from Sheikhabad, across the Paghman Range to Goda, Soofeed Kadir, Joort, and Kurzar. Thence the fugitive's footsteps were traced by Kaloo, up the tremendous passes of Hajee Guk and the Shootur Gurdun to Bamian, at which place the pursuit was abandoned as hopeless. After a three days' halt the party returned to Kabul, which had been occupied by the main Army on the 7th August, arriving there on the 17th August, after an absence of fifteen days, having traversed sixteen miles daily, over stupendous mountain passes. General Sir G. Lawrence, K.C.B., who accompanied this Force, in his account of the expedition, writes :—

During the expedition, which lasted fifteen days, going and returning, our Hindustani troopers—Brahmins, Rajputs, and Mussalmans—behaved most admirably. Nothing could exceed their patience, fortitude, and the good humour with which they underwent fatigue and exposure of no ordinary kind, without cooking utensils of any sort, and with only the clothes on their backs.

On the 16th September the Bombay contingent commenced its return to India, via Ghuzni, the Toba district, and Quetta.

In General Orders by the Right Honourable the Governor-General in India, dated Camp Paniput, 18th December, 1839, the thanks of the Government of India were conveyed to all ranks who had taken part in the late campaign, and it was further resolved that "all corps which proceeded beyond the Bolan Pass shall have on their regimental colours the word

'Afghanistan,' and such of them as were employed in the reduction of the fortress of that name, the word 'Ghuzni' in addition."

On the 29th October the Army reached Quetta, and a force under Major-General Sir Thomas Wiltshire, consisting of the Poona Irregular Horse, one troop Horse Artillery, 2nd Queen's Royals, 17th Regiment of Foot, and 35th Bengal Native Infantry, were detached to Kelat, to punish the Khan for an act of gross treachery, perpetrated during the advance on Afghanistan. The fortress of Kelat was very little inferior to Ghuzni in point of strength, the garrison consisting of 1,400 men, with abundance of provisions and ammunition. Sir Thomas Wiltshire, after reconnoitring the position, decided to carry it by storm. The result was a desperate hand-to-hand fight, in which the Khan and his followers, who indignantly refused to accept quarter, were all bayoneted on the spot, and in a short four hours the fortress was in our possession. Near the spot where the Khan was killed a shocking spectacle presented itself. His favourite women, about twelve or fourteen in number, lay heaped together in a pool of blood, their throats having been cut by order of the Khan to prevent their falling into our hands. A large amount of treasure was found in the citadel, and if a greater number of Cavalry had been present more still would have fallen into our hands, as the enemy were observed despatching it to the hills on camels through one of the back gates during the heat of the assault.

Detachments of the regiment were also present at the affairs at Kotra, Gundawa, and Dadur.

The Force suffered severely from cholera on the march down to the Indus, and the condition of the horses after the campaign was deplorable.

The various detachments were withdrawn as opportunity offered, and concentrated with regimental headquarters at Sirur.

## 1840

On return of Lord Keane to India, a detachment of 150 Sabres, under Lieutenant Loch, remained in Upper Sind, 100 of whom accompanied Major Clibborne's Force and were present at the Battle of Nafosk. The Infantry had been twice repulsed from assaults on the hill, when a party of 50 men of the Poona Horse volunteered to dismount, and attempted to storm the heights sword in hand; but, owing to the number of the enemy and the strength of the position, they were driven back with great loss, but not until they had left their Jamadar, Yeswunt Rao Ardley, 1 Dafedar, 34 men, and 15 horses dead on the field; Lieutenant Loch and 9 men were wounded. The gallantry of Sowar Ahmed Khan on this day was conspicuous. Lieutenant Loch was severely wounded, with a sabre-cut on the head, whilst leading his men on foot, after which he was struck by a stone and rendered senseless; his orderly, Sowar Ahmed Khan, assisted by Dafedar Ahmed Bux, in the face of the enemy, carried him on his back, though surrounded by the foe in every direction, and succeeded in placing him on a camel, and eventually in a dooley, by which act of bravery Lieutenant Loch's life was saved. For his bravery on this occasion, on the recommendation of Sir C. Napier, Sowar Ahmed Khan was—by G.O.C.I. No. 136, dated 2nd June, 1841, republished in G.G.O. No. 440, dated 16th July—admitted to the 3rd Class of the "Order of Merit," with effect from 31st August, 1840.

The Cutch Levy was this year transferred to form the nucleus of the Sind Irregular Horse.

The following return, copied from the records of the regiment, gives the names and characters of the native officers as they stood on 1st May, 1840:

COMMISSIONED OFFICERS IN THE POONA AUXILIARY  
HORSE, 1st MAY, 1840.

Rank and Name.	Character and Services.
<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Risaldar.</i></p> <p>Dowlut Rao Ghorpura, Ameerool Oomrao and Sirdar Bahadur. (Length of service, 22<math>\frac{3}{2}</math> years.)</p>	<p>An officer of distinction and possessed of the most creditable testimonials. Served throughout the Mahratta War, and the operations in Sind and Afghanistan with the Army of the Indus.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Jamadars.</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Alliar Khan. (Length of service, 22<math>\frac{1}{2}</math> years.)</li> <li>2. Surfraz Khan. (Length of service, 22<math>\frac{3}{4}</math> years.)</li> <li>3. Mohamed Gous Khan, Bahadur. (Service, 20 years.)</li> <li>4. Mulhar Rao Ghorpura. (Service, 11 years.)</li> <li>5. Mirza Fyzoola Beg. (Service, 21 years.)</li> <li>6. Alladad Khan. (Service, 23 years.)</li> <li>7. Yeshwant Rao Ordley. (Service, 23 years.)</li> <li>8. Mohamed Shah Khan. (Service, 23 years.)</li> </ol>	<p>A respectable, brave, and zealous officer. Present at the siege of Malligaon and Asirghur; actively employed in Khandedh, Berar; was wounded when the Bheel Chief Kannas was surprised; has received the thanks of Government for his services.</p> <p>Transferred as Risaldar to the Sind Irregular Horse.</p> <p>Commanded the detachment which accompanied the British Envoy to Persia, and for his services there raised to the dignity of "Khan" and Allega and Bahadur. Is an officer of the highest respectability, and holds the local rank of Risaldar in the Southern Mahratta Country.</p> <p>Eldest son of Risaldar: is an active young man. Served with the Army of the Indus.</p> <p>A zealous and brave officer. Has often been employed on detached and harassing duties; received the thanks of Government for his service in the Myhee Kanta in 1836; served with the Army of the Indus.</p> <p>Transferred to the Sind Irregular Horse.</p> <p>A respectable, good, and zealous officer. Served in Sind (killed at Nafosk).</p> <p>A faithful, respectable officer. Served with the Army of the Indus.</p>

COMMISSIONED OFFICERS IN THE NEW LEVY, POONA  
AUXILIARY HORSE.

Rank and Name.	Character and Service.
<p><i>Risaldar.</i></p> <p>Ram Rao Poorundhurry. (Service, 1½ years.)</p>	<p>An officer of the highest family and character. Holds the rank of Sirdar in the Deccan.</p>
<p><i>Jamadars.</i></p> <p>1. Davee Sing. (Service, 21 years.)</p> <p>2. Mohamed Amin. (Service, 23 years.)</p>	<p>A respectable and good officer.</p> <p>Served as a Jamadar in the old Poona Horse prior to the reduction; present at the Battle of Koregaon. Possesses testimonials from several officers, including a very excellent one from Sir Lionel Smith.</p>

(Signed) G. K. ERSKINE, Captain,  
Commanding Poona Auxiliary Horse.

## 1841

During this year the regiment remained at Sirur, occupied in making good the wear and tear of the late campaign.

For the two years following the withdrawal of General Keane's Force from Afghanistan, Shah Shooja and his allies remained in possession of Kabul and Kandahar supported by 8,000 men of the British Force, with Sir W. Macnaghten as Envoy and Sir A. Burnes as his colleague. From the beginning insurrection against the new Government had been rife. On 2nd November, 1841, the revolt broke out violently at Kabul, with the massacre of Burnes and other officers. The position of the British camp, its communications with the citadel, and the location of the stores, were the worst possible, and the General in command (Elphinston) was shattered in constitution. Disaster after disaster occurred. At a conference on 23rd December Akbar Khan, the leader of the Afghans, himself murdered Sir William Macnaghten.

1842

On the 6th January, after a convention to evacuate the country had been signed, the British garrison, still numbering 4,500 soldiers (of whom 690 were Europeans), with some 12,000 followers, marched out of the camp. The winter was severe, the troops demoralized, the march a mass of confusion and massacre, and the Force was finally overwhelmed in the Jagdalak Pass, between Kabul and Jelalabad. On the 13th the last survivors mustered at Gundamak only thirty muskets. Of those who left Kabul, only Dr. Brydon reached Jelalabad, wounded and half-dead. Ninety-five prisoners were afterwards recovered. The garrison of Ghuzni had already been forced to surrender, but General Nott held Kandahar with a stern hand, and General Sale, who had reached Jelalabad at the beginning of the outbreak, gallantly maintained that point.

To avenge these disasters two columns were despatched from India—one under General Pollock, via the Khyber, and one under General England, via Quetta. With the latter went the Poona Horse.

On 28th March, General England, in the advance from Quetta to Kandahar for the relief of General Nott's force, was repulsed at Haikalzai with heavy loss. Exactly a month later he again attacked the position, and this time with success, and on the 10th May his force reached Kandahar, and effected a junction with General Nott. On the 29th May the enemy began to appear in the neighbourhood and carried off some baggage animals. A sharp action ensued, in which the Cavalry bore a conspicuous part, and cut up the enemy with great slaughter, the Poona Horse capturing a standard. On the 7th August, the British Force evacuated Kandahar, and commenced the withdrawal towards the Indus, during which the brunt of the fighting again fell on the Cavalry.

After the withdrawal from Afghanistan, General England's troops were placed under the command of General Sir Charles James Napier in Scinde, where the Ameers had been giving trouble for a considerable period.

In November, 50 Sabres proceeded on service to Aden, where they remained for nearly three years, their uniform good conduct during their stay eliciting a most complimentary order on their return. It would appear that there was some difficulty in the despatch of this detachment, as it is on record that the Commanding-Officer was severely censured by Government "for neglecting to despatch, as ordered, a detachment of the Poona Auxiliary Horse to Aden." An extra standard-bearer was sanctioned to carry the standard captured at Kandahar.

### 1843

On the 15th February, Major Outram, the Commissioner, with an escort of only 100 men, with 40 rounds of ammunition each, was attacked in the Residency at Hyderabad (Scinde) by a hostile force of 8,000 men, with six guns; but thanks to the presence of two steamers on the river, he was able to extricate himself and escort after a most heroic defence, and effected a juncture with the main Army, under Sir Charles Napier at Muttaree, on the Indus, one march north of Meanee.

On the 17th February the Battle of Meanee was fought. The Baloochis were between 30,000 and 40,000 strong, with 15 guns, and 5,000 Cavalry, and against them Sir Charles Napier had only some 2,600 of all arms (including officers) fit for duty. His Cavalry numbered 800 only.

On the night of the 16th the Army marched from their camp, and at 8 o'clock on the following morning the advance guard discovered the camp of the Ameers. Our Force was greatly crippled by their immense mass of camp followers and animals. This was all parked behind the line of battle, and the defence assigned to the Poona Horse, under Captain Tait, who mustered about 250 strong, and four companies of Infantry.

For many hours the unequal contest was waged, the front of the battle consisting of a chain of single combats, where no quarter was given, none asked for, none expected. At length, after three hours of this, the inevitable crisis belonging to every battle, which offers victory to the Commander who most

promptly and strongly seizes the occasion, arrived at Meanee. Sir Charles Napier was that Commander. He had no reserve save his Cavalry, and yet the battle must be won or lost during the next twenty minutes. He accordingly sent orders to Colonel Pattle, his Second-in-Command, to charge at all risk the enemy's right with the available Cavalry. The ground was fearfully broken up by nullahs and ditches, so much so that fifty of the Scinde troopers came down at the commencement of the charge. But, dashing through the Baloochi guns on the right flank, riding over the high bank of the Fullaillee, the handful of Cavalry crossed the deep river-bed, gained the plain beyond, and charged with irresistible fury, spreading confusion along the rear of the whole line of battle. Then at last the Baloochi swordsmen, whose fury was scarcely to be resisted before, began to waver. The British Infantry gathered themselves together for a final effort, and charged. The battle was lost for the Ameers, and slowly the Baloochis began to retreat. In this battle the enemy lost over 5,000 and the British forces nearly 300, of whom 20 were officers, Captain Tait being among the wounded.

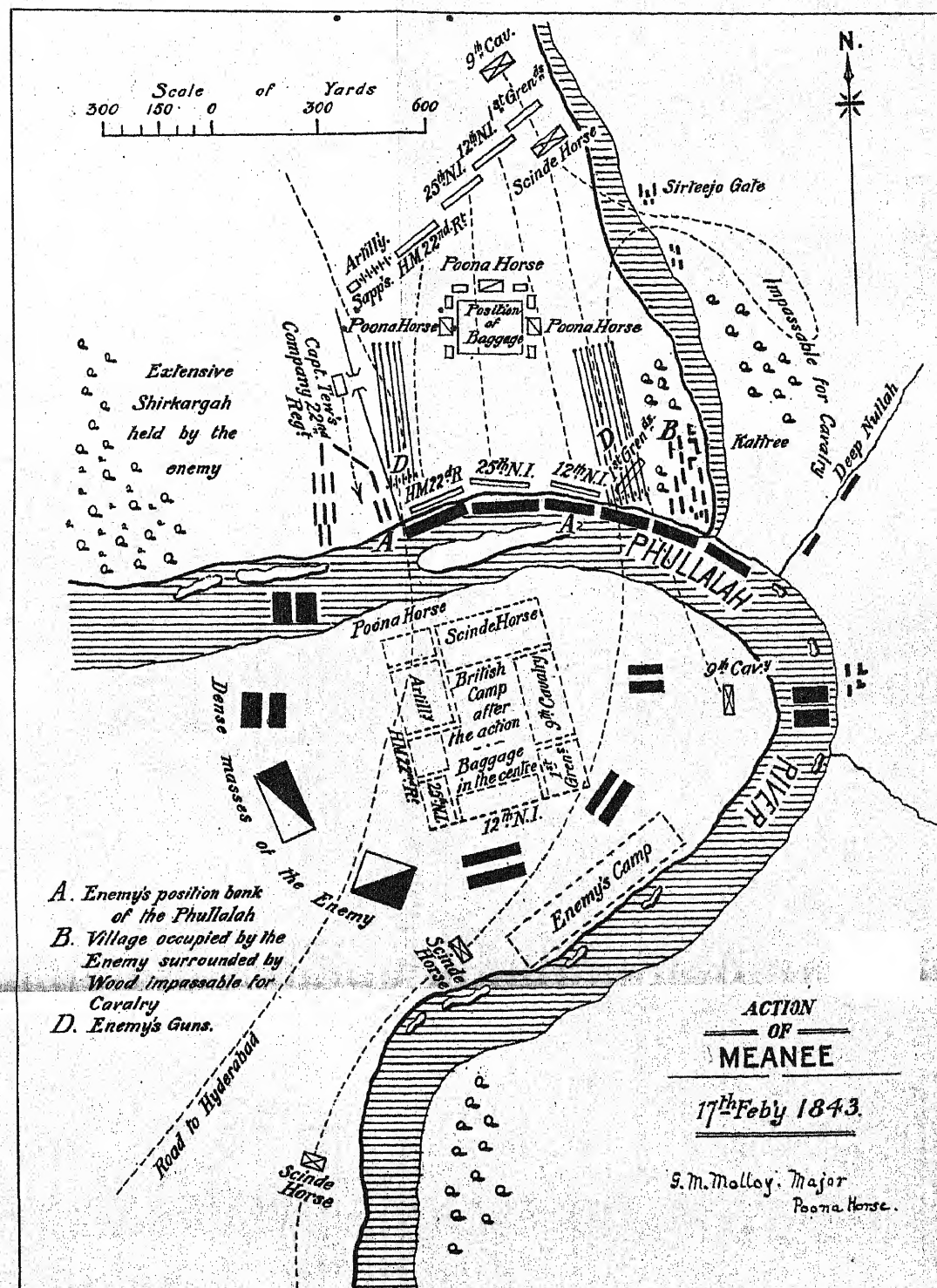
The services of the regiment in this battle were brought to special notice in despatches, and the name of Sowar Ahmed Khan, who received the Order of Merit in 1840, was again specially mentioned for gallantry in saving the life of his Commanding-Officer, Captain Tait, in this battle, when the latter was wounded.

On the 20th February Hyderabad was occupied, and its immense treasures, estimated at two millions sterling, seized.

Sir Charles Napier's chief idea now was to remain where he was, and open up communication with Sukkur, and thus obtain the provisions and ammunition necessary for the completion of the campaign. This he effected successfully, and the enemy, misled by his inactivity, approached the neighbourhood of the British position, thus falling in with the plans of the General who desired above all things to again give battle, but, if possible, without long preliminary marches and on ground near to his own resources.

On the 23rd March welcome reinforcements reached the







British camp from Bombay, and on the 24th, at daybreak, 5,000 fighting men were under arms. Of these, 1,100 were Cavalry, and in addition Sir Charles had 19 guns of different calibre, 5 of them being Horse Artillery. The force advanced, and after some ten miles marching, the enemy were discovered. Their whole Army was concentrated at the village of Dubba, where they had entrenched themselves in position to give battle. The Poona Horse and the Bengal Cavalry covered the left wing of our advance, and the remainder of the Cavalry were massed on the right flank. A premature charge by the latter nearly upset the whole of the General's plans, but, throwing himself at the head of the Infantry, the whole dashed forward against the position. The two covering nullahs were carried at the point of the bayonet, and the victorious troops dashed forward to the village of Dubba, which was turned by the Poona Horse galloping round to the left and thus cutting it off. The enemy now fell back, the greater number made for the Indus, with the design of crossing the river and taking refuge on the right bank. But the victorious cavalry of the right turned them from the cultivated districts and drove them in heaps towards the waste. The Poona Horse and Bengal Horse, led by Captain Tait and Major Storey, and under the immediate command of the General himself, who had forced his way through Dubba at the head of the Infantry, now followed the retreating masses of the right, putting them to the sword for several miles, not without loss to themselves however. The Scinde horsemen pursued on a parallel line, more to the right, but owing to an error in judgment the pursuit on this line was stopped too early. The victors lost 270 officers and men, the vanquished about 5,000, and they would have suffered more but for the untimely halt of the Cavalry of the right.

This memorable battle, fought thirty-five days after Meanee, and within a few miles of that place, bears three names—viz., Dubba, Naraja, and Hyderabad. The first from the village, the second from the plain, and the third from the city near which it was fought. The last is the one by which it is most commonly known, being that which is inscribed on

the colours and medals of the gallant soldiers by whom it was won.

In G.G.O. No. 113, dated the 1st March of this year, Lieutenant Tait, commanding the Details Poona Horse, is mentioned for gallant conduct at the Battle of Meanee.

G.G.O. No. 246, dated the 25th April, republishes G.O.G.I., dated the 11th idem, authorizing the Poona Horse to bear on its standards and appointments the words "Hyderabad" and "Meanee," to be borne in lieu of "Hyderabad 1843," sanctioned by the General Order by the Government of India, dated the 5th March, 1843.

### 1844

This year Captain Frazer, Second-in-Command, with 100 Sabres, served in the Southern Mahratta country with the Force under General de la Motte, and were present at the capture of the hill-forts of Munohur and Munsuntos, and were actively employed in the Sawunt Warree country until it was quieted and the Force withdrawn.

### 1845

An augmentation of 500 Sabres was ordered this year.

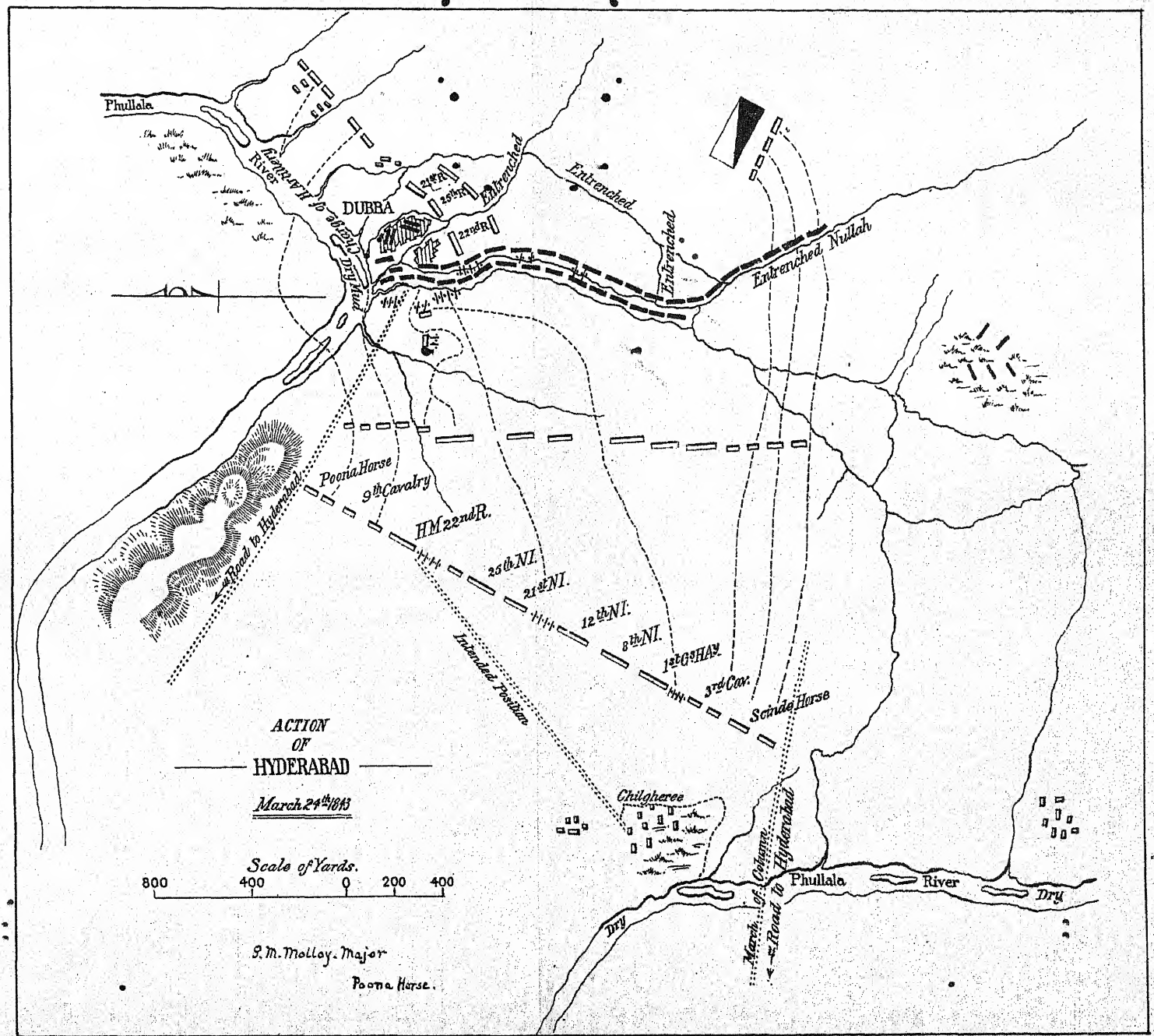
Sixty Sabres were detached with the Force employed in the Northern Concan for the suppression of Ragoojee Bangria.

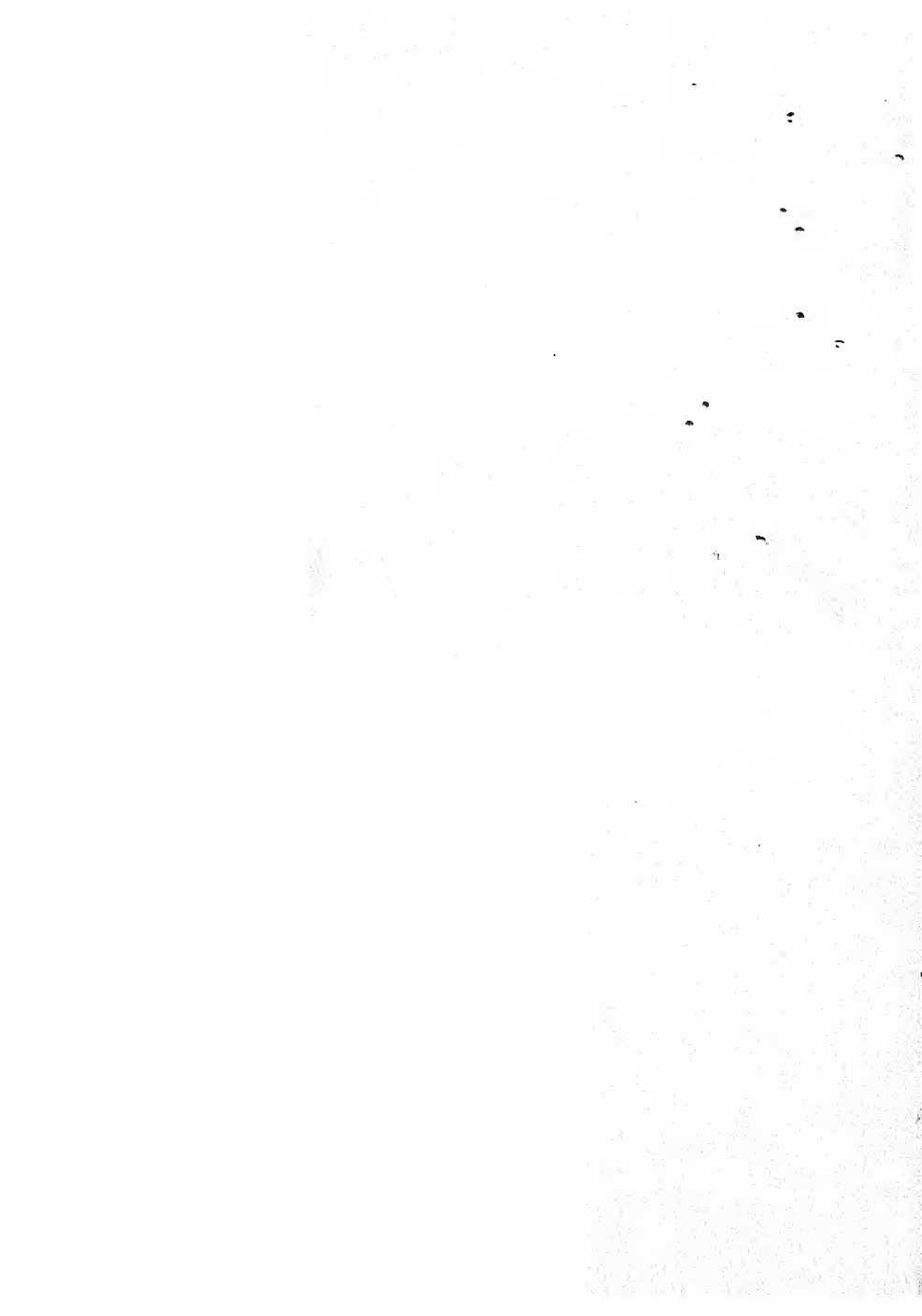
### 1847

The regiment was reorganized with effect from 1st January and the designation changed to the Poona Irregular Horse. By G.G.O. No. 5, dated 2nd January, 1847, an Adjutant and Assistant-Surgeon were sanctioned, the total number of native ranks being fixed at 753.

The Headquarters were to be located at Sirur, with a detachment at Malligaum.

In the Bombay General Order referred to above, containing the details of the reorganization of the Poona Auxiliary Horse, and incorporating in it the "New Levy," the latter is referred to as "Skinner's." This is from the fact that it was com-





manded by Captain Philip Kearney Skinner (later Colonel Skinner of the 9th Bombay Infantry), and must not be confused with Skinner's Horse, the present 1st Bengal Lancers.

On the 30th March commissions were sanctioned for the native officers.

His Excellency Lieutenant-General Sir C. Napier, G.C.B., Commanding the Troops in Scinde, having made a reference to His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief of Bombay regarding the practice of the men of Irregular Cavalry being permitted to wear swords off duty when visiting towns and bazaars, the matter was referred for the decision of Government, when it was ascertained to have been a privilege held by the Poona Irregular Horse from the period the corps was first raised, and one highly prized by the men. His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief—in a letter from the Adjutant-General of the Army, dated 12th July, 1847—was pleased, with the concurrence of Government, not to interfere with the privilege, and to sanction the two regiments of Poona and Guzerat Horse wearing their swords off duty when visiting towns and bazaars as heretofore.

### 1848

The regiment, under Captain Macdonald, served in Upper Scinde from November, 1848, to June, 1849. At this time the regimental uniform was a dark green jacket with red facings and gold lace.

### 1849

The flint carbines, with which the regiment had hitherto been armed, were withdrawn this year, and percussion arms issued in their place, at the expense of the men.

A detachment under the command of Captain M. M. Macdonald was posted on the Scinde frontier.

The regimental lines at Sirur were originally built on a very modest scale, and at this time had fallen into a bad state of repair. The regimental authorities therefore determined to improve them as far as possible. Permission was obtained

from the Government to take over the buildings of the Government Stud Farm at Aligaum, which had been standing empty for some time. The materials thus obtained were brought over to Sirur on the regimental transport, and utilized to rebuild the lines. These were on a far more ambitious scale than the original ones, and in succeeding years the policy was maintained of providing the men with really suitable dwellings, with the result that the Poona Horse lines became the best of any of those occupied by Indian Cavalry regiments. So much so was this the case that, when some thirty years later, it was proposed to delocalize the Poona Horse, and place them on the Bombay Cavalry general roster of reliefs, it was successfully used as an argument against the innovation, that the lines, which were the private property of the regiment, were so far superior to any of the others that they would have to occupy, that a considerable sum would have to be paid in compensation, before the regiment could be moved. A question of vested interests which, later on, in the year 1903, Lord Kitchener would not allow to interfere with his scheme of reorganization of the Indian Army, with which was included, amongst many other much needed reforms, the change alluded to above.

### 1850

This year the Regiment was constituted a Military corps, and Military law introduced with effect from the 1st January.

### 1851

In November Captain Westropp, with 200 Sabres, proceeded to Bombay for duty during the Mussulman and Parsi disturbances.

Other detachments were employed during the year, doing good service conjointly with the police, including operations against the Ramoosees under Oomeah's son in the Poona district; against the Bheels in Khandesh, and their bands in the several districts where detachments were located.



## 1852

Captain Westropp, with 200 Sabres, proceeded in December, by forced marches, to Sowda, in Khandesh, to quiet disturbances, returning to Sirur in February, 1853.

## 1854

The Regiment took part in the "Cobham Camp" formed in Poona by His Excellency Lord Frederick Fitzclarence, Commander-in-Chief.

With a view to encourage the men to become marksmen, His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief presented one gold and six silver badges for good shooting; the former to be worn by the best shot for the year in the whole corps, the others for the best shot in each troop.

## 1856

In 1856 the Shah of Persia invaded Afghanistan and captured the city of Herat. As this was contrary to treaty, the British Government called upon him to evacuate the city and withdraw his Army from Afghan territory.

He refused to do so, and war was declared.

On the 17th October, the Headquarters of the regiment consisting of 200 Sabres under the command of Lieutenant-Colonel Tapp, marched from Sirur to Oolwa Bunder, to join the Persian Expeditionary Force under the command of Major-General Stalker, C.B.

His force consisted of :—

18 Guns, Bombay Field Artillery.

1 Brigade Cavalry (including 2 troops Poona Horse)

2 Brigades Infantry.

A squadron of ships of war of the Indian Navy, under the command of Admiral Sir Henry Leeke, R.N., formed the naval force, which was to co-operate as far as was possible with the troops on land.

The Expeditionary Force arrived in the Persian Gulf in December, and on the 4th idem occupied the Island of Karrack, which was formed into a military depot.

On the 7th, the troops disembarked without opposition in Hallilah Bay, 12 miles south of Bushire; but, owing to lack of transport, they took no tents nor baggage of any description, three days' rations being carried in haversacks.

Forty-eight hours sufficed to put them in motion northwards, the ships of war led by the Admiral advancing along the coast to their support.

The march was commenced on the morning of the 9th, and at midday opposition was met with in front of the old Dutch port of Reshire, situated on the cliffs bordering the margin of the sea. This was strongly held, but after a short bombardment by the guns of the fleet the place was carried at the point of the bayonet, the enemy in despair flying down the cliffs, where many met their death in their attempts to escape through the creeks and ravines.

Owing to the nature of the ground, however, the Cavalry were unable to pursue.

The casualties on our side were slight, but Brigadier Stopford and Lieutenant-Colonel Malet, who commanded the 3rd Light Cavalry (now 33rd), were killed at the head of their men. The next day the Army advanced on the strongly fortified town of Bushire.

All through the morning of that day the Admiral had ordered a brisk fire to be kept up on the town and fortifications by the fleet.

This disheartened the garrison considerably, and as soon as General Stalker's troops arrived under the walls, the Persian flag fluttered down and the town surrendered unconditionally, 59 guns and a large quantity of arms and munitions of war being taken. The lesson the enemy had received the day before at Reshire, the heavy bombardment of their works, and the imposing appearance of the troops in line, were no doubt the causes of the lack of spirit shown in surrendering the town.

A considerable number of the garrison had succeeded in making good their escape before the surrender took place, and had retired on Burazjoon. The remainder laid down their arms, and Bushire was occupied by the British troops.

## 1857

On January 27th, 1857, General Sir James Outram, K.C.B., who was now appointed to command the Forces in Persia, arrived, shortly followed by General Havelock's Division, the arrival of which completed the force which was to take the field against the Persians.

Towards the end of January, General Outram received information that the Persian Government were assembling a force of 8,000 men and 18 to 20 guns, with a view of recovering the lost stronghold of Burazjoon, situated about 46 miles inland from Bushire; he therefore resolved to attack the enemy at once and so prevent them from obtaining any reinforcements.

On February 3rd he set out with a force of 4,500 men, half of whom were British troops, and 18 guns. On the afternoon of the 5th, after a fatiguing march in the worst of weather, his troops arrived before the Persian entrenchments, merely to find them evacuated. A few scattered horsemen were to be seen, which were assumed to be the tail end of their rear-guard.

Outram learnt (afterwards proved wrong) that the entire Persian Army had precipitously retreated through the mountain passes to the hinterland, and as his force was a weak one, specially in Cavalry, he deemed it more prudent not to pursue, and having appropriated such of the stores, etc., left behind them by the Persians, as would be useful, he destroyed the remainder and commenced his return march on the 7th.

They had not gone far when the Persian Cavalry began to harass the rear-guard and flanks, and as their attacks became more and more bold, a halt was ordered for the night, square being formed to give better protection to the baggage, etc.

The enemy continued to pour in a heavy fire from four guns of considerable calibre, which caused numerous casualties.

As dawn broke, the Persian Army, 7,000 strong, was revealed, drawn up on our army's left rear.

General Outram at once issued orders for the attack, and the Cavalry and Artillery swept forward, with the Infantry formed in double line behind them.

The guns rapidly came into action, and supported by their fire, the Poona Horse and 3rd Light Cavalry (now the 33rd Light Cavalry) made two brilliant charges against the Persian battle line. In one of these charges the troopers of the Poona Horse, crashing through a square formed by the 1st Khusgai Regiment of Kars, rode through and through it almost annihilating it, spiked two guns, and captured their standard.

The enemy were so disconcerted by these fierce onslaughts that they broke and fled, flinging away their arms as they ran, and only escaped worse disaster owing to the scarcity of mounted troops left fit to pursue.

The above action took place near the village of Khushab. By 10 a.m. General Outram was master of the entire battle-field, on which vast quantities of arms and military stores were captured.

The Infantry never came within reach of the enemy's fire, and hence the battle was almost entirely won by one or two dashing charges of the Poona Horse and 3rd Cavalry. Such a performance of Cavalry against 7,000 of even semi-civilized people like the Persians is remarkable, and must rank as a fine performance, adding one more proof, of which many abound in history, that given its opening and a leader sufficiently capable of seizing that opening, Cavalry can effect the most decisive results on the battlefield.

Khushab forms a brilliant example of the utterly demoralizing effect which a sudden and unexpected dash of horsemen has on even unbroken Infantry.

Two guns were taken, and a large quantity of gun ammunition, which was laden on mules, fell into our hands; 700 men lay dead on the field, and the number of wounded could not be ascertained. The remainder fled in a disorganized state, most of them throwing away their arms, which strewed the field in vast numbers.

Nothing but the paucity of our Cavalry prevented the total

destruction of the enemy and the capture of the remaining guns.

The number of casualties in our force was 16 killed (including Lieutenant Frankland, who was acting Brigade-Major of the Cavalry) and 56 wounded. The Poona Horse, out of a total of 170 sabres, had 4 killed and 8 wounded.

After a rest of six hours the greater part of the Infantry pushed on to Bushire, which they reached about midnight, thus performing an arduous march of 44 miles in 50 hours, fighting and defeating the enemy during its progress. The Cavalry and Artillery reached camp the next morning (10th February). The weather was most inclement, heavy rain falling incessantly during the entire operations.

General Outram in his despatches stated that the greatest praise was due to the troops for their steadiness and gallantry in the field, their extraordinary exertions on the march, and their cheerful endurance of fatigue and privation.

After the Battle of Khushab it was decided to attack the enemy on his right flank from the River Euphrates, which is the boundary between Turkey and Persia.

The objective was the Persian town of Mohumra. This town is about thirty miles south of Bussera, on the Hafar Canal, which joins the Euphrates, or Shat-el-Arab, with the Karun River, dividing the distance between the two, which is about four miles. Here the Persians had been erecting batteries of great strength, mounted on works of solid mud, 20 feet thick and 18 feet high, with casemated embrasures, so as to command the passage of the entire river.

The 2nd Division, shortly after its arrival at Bushire, was despatched on transports to the mouth of the Euphrates, and on the 23rd March, as soon as the Lieutenant-General had joined the Force, all arrangements for an advance had been completed, the ships of war and transports proceeded up the river to the village of Hurteh, four miles below Mohumra, and anchored.

A battery of mortars was mounted on a raft and towed to a position from which it could pound the enemy's works. The plan of attack was as follows:—

1. To silence the enemy's batteries with fire from the mortars and ships of war.
2. When this was done, to carry the troops rapidly up the river in boats towed by small steamers, beyond the northernmost battery.
3. To land the troops and advance on the entrenched camp.

The first two phases were entirely successful, the third being frustrated, much to the regret of the whole Army, by the precipitate flight of the enemy, who left their tents standing, and several magazines, and large quantities of stores behind them.

There was practically no pursuit, owing to lack of Cavalry, but some of the Scinde Horse, following up the enemy, came upon their rear-guard retreating in good order.

The Persian Army numbered 13,000 men with 30 guns. The British Force consisted only of 4,900 men with 18 guns.

The Naval Squadron lost 5 killed and 18 wounded. With this exception there were no casualties among our troops.

The Persians lost 200 in killed alone, the number of wounded being unknown.

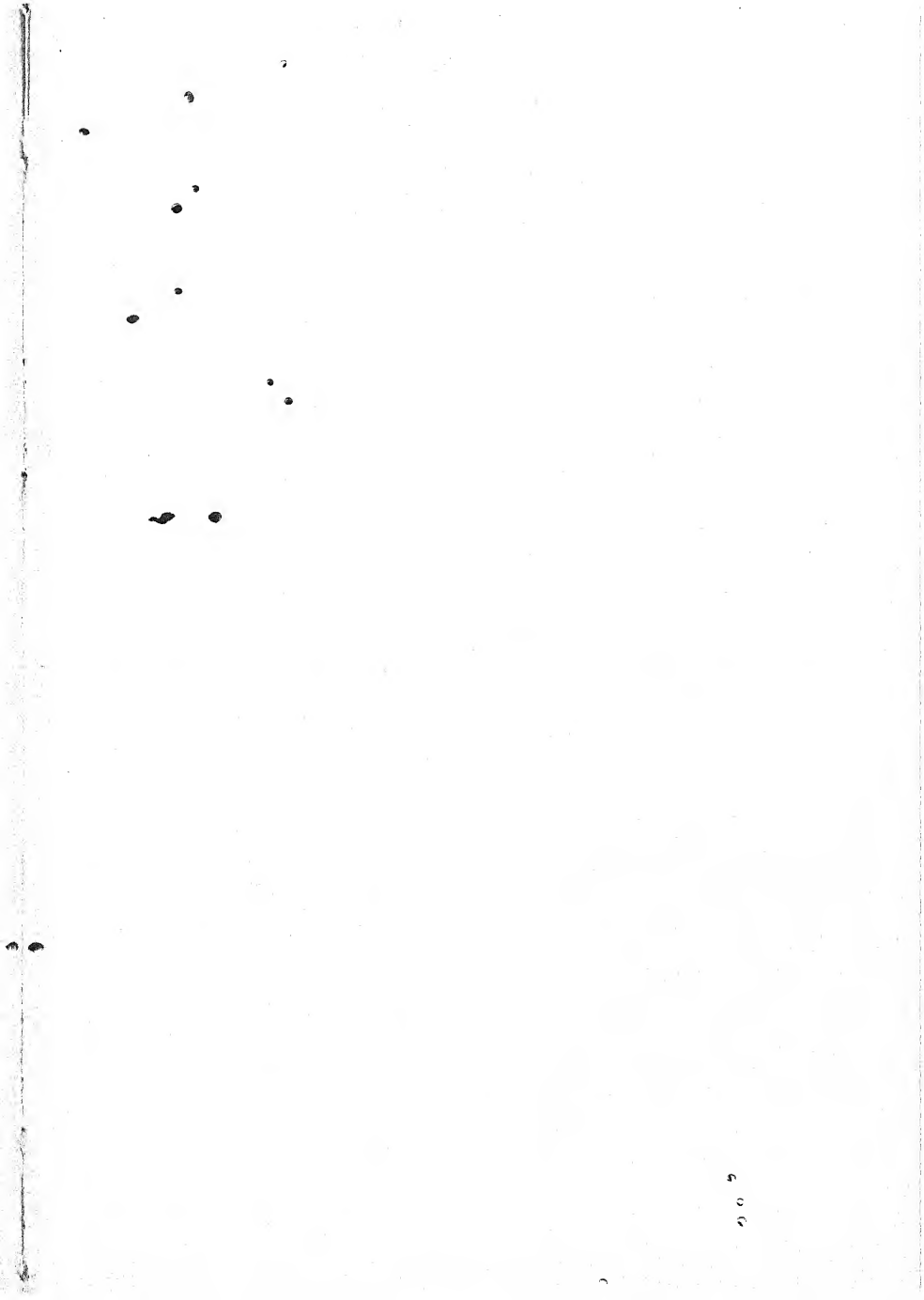
On 29th March a flotilla of three river steamers and three gun-boats, under the command of Captain Rennie, R.N., with 300 men of the 64th and 78th Highlanders, proceeded to the town of Ahwaz, on the River Karun, 100 miles above Mohumra, to follow up the Persian Army.

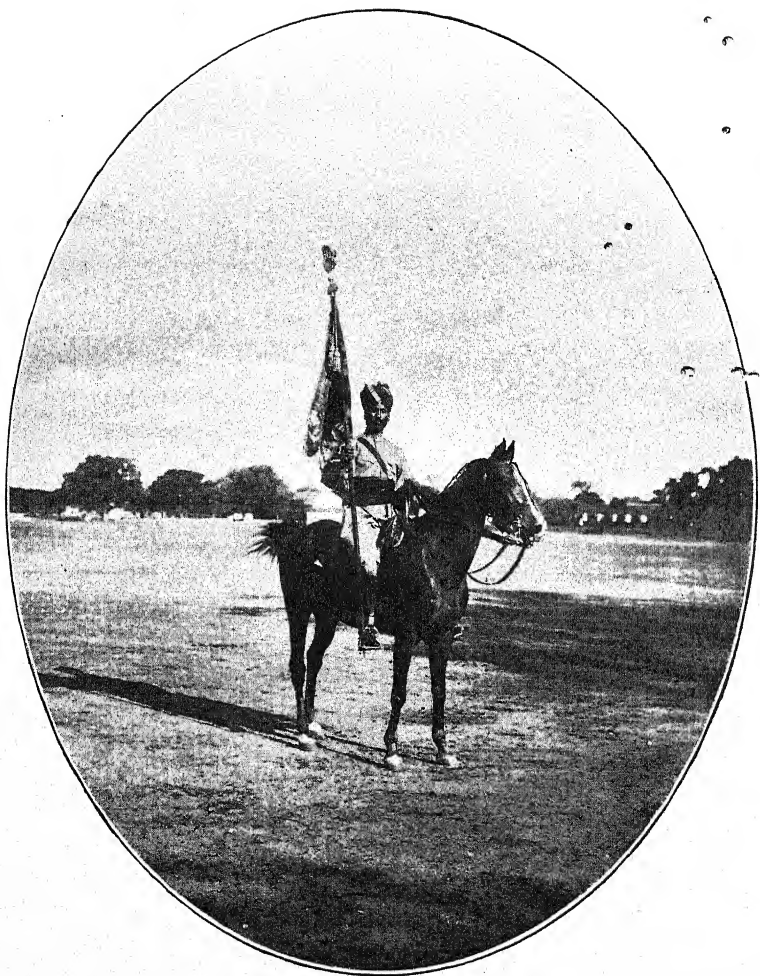
On arriving there, the enemy were found to be in a strong position; but on the gun-boats advancing and opening fire, they retired without returning a single shot—doubtless under the misapprehension that the flotilla was the vanguard of the British Army.

The troops disembarked and entered the town. The Arab chief at once tendered submission, and provided the force with what it required.

After remaining there two days, the flotilla with the troops returned to Mohumra.

During this time the 1st Division remained at Bushire. General Stalker died on 14th March and was succeeded in command by General Jacob.





REGIMENTAL STANDARD

Showing the method of carrying the Silver Hand captured at the  
Battle of Khooshab.



The operations at Mohumra, followed by the action at Ahwaz, practically brought the war to a close.

The standard captured by the Poona Horse in the charge at the Battle of Khushab was surmounted by a silver hand of great sanctity and antiquity. It has the following inscription on the palm: "Yad Ullal Fauk Idehim," or "The hand of God is above all things." It bears a date corresponding to our A.D. 1066. The Poona Horse is the only Indian Cavalry Regiment permitted to carry a standard on parade, and the above-mentioned silver hand is mounted above the standard. This honour was accorded the regiment by the Government of India in G.O.C., dated 18th May, 1859, in recognition of the services of the regiment at the Battle of Khushab.

The following is a copy of the despatch conveying the Governor-General's permission to the same:—

No. 503, dated Allahabad, 20th January, 1859, from Major-General R. I. H. Birch, Secretary to the Government of India, with the Governor-General, to the Secretary to Government, Military Department, Bombay.—With reference to your letter, No. 6655, dated 11th October, 1858, I am directed to acquaint you, for the information of the Government of Bombay, that the Right Honourable the Governor-General willingly consents to the distinction, recommended for the Poona Irregular Horse, of bearing on their standard the Silver Hand, captured by them from the 1st Kuskai Regiment of Fars.

The bearer of the Persian standard was cut down by a daffedar of the regiment, by name Ghulam Hussain, and the silver hand was carried off by him from the battle. For this act of gallantry he was awarded the Order of Merit. The Star of the Order, which he received, was obtained from Ghulam Hussain's grandchildren, in the year 1898, by Lieutenant G. M. Molloy, who had it mounted on the lid of a silver snuff-box, and presented it to the officers' mess.

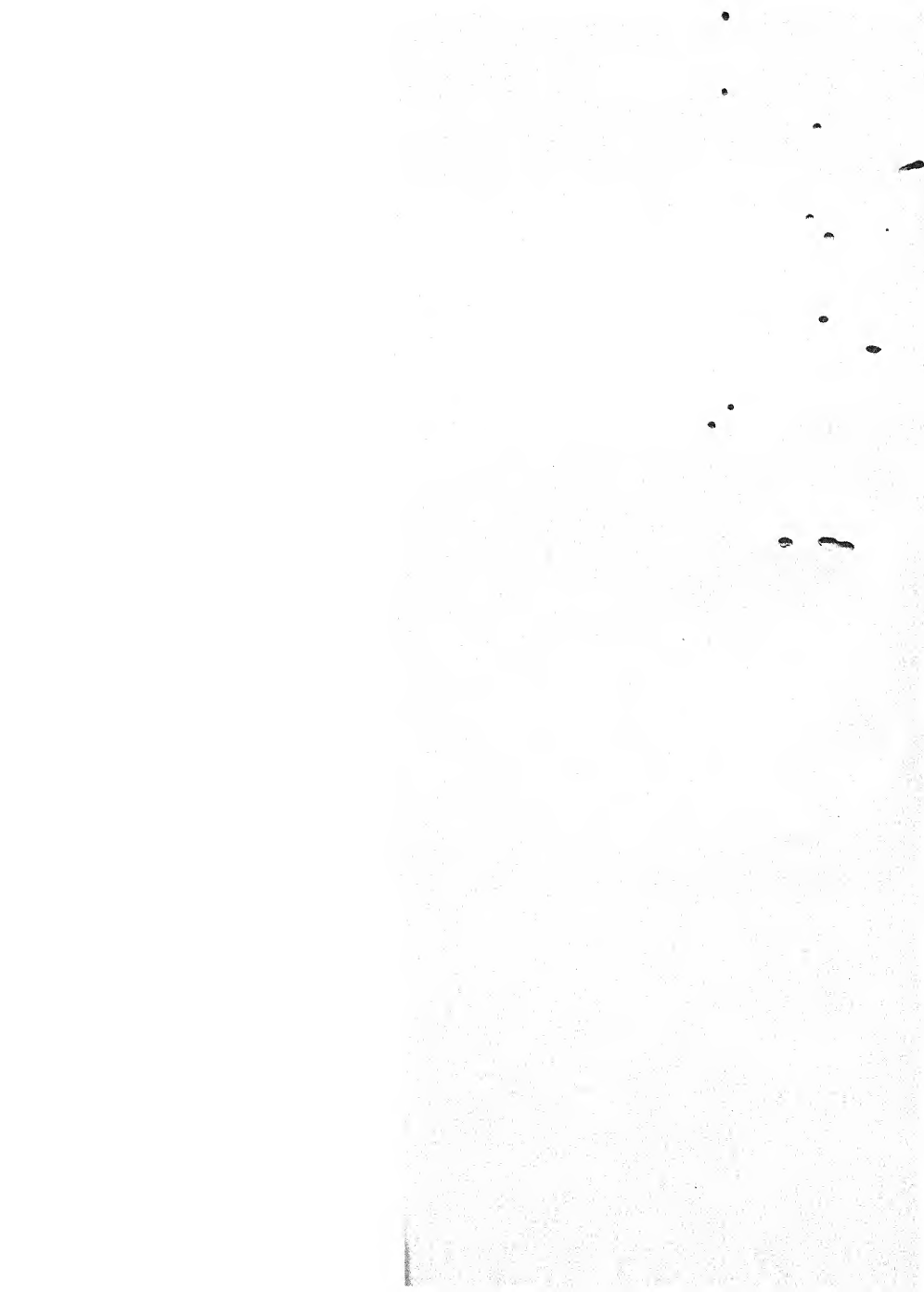
In February an augmentation to the regiment of 200 Sabres was ordered, and this was completed in August. A second detachment of 200 Sabres landed at Bushire in April, but were too late to take any active part in the operations. Both detachments embarked for India in June, where they arrived

in July and August, except ten men, whose transport had been wrecked, and they arrived in September.

In this year the sepoys of the Bengal Army mutinied, and all the Valley of the Ganges, from Patna to Delhi, rose in open rebellion. This spread to the south as far as Hyderabad, but the greater part of the troops of the Bombay Presidency remained loyal. Various causes have been assigned for the Mutiny. The truth seems to be that native opinion throughout India was in a ferment, predisposing men to believe the wildest stories, and to act precipitately on their fears. Repeated annexations, the spread of education, the appearance of the steam engine, and of the telegraph wire, all alike revealed a consistent determination to substitute an English for an Indian civilization. The numerous dethroned princes, their heirs and widows vigorously fanned the flame. Owing to the working of the Silladar System many of the Sowars were heavily in debt, and were in favour of a change which would wipe out the existing régime, and with it the bunnias, to whom they owed money. Moreover, in addition to these general causes of unrest, the state of discipline of the native Army had long given cause for uneasiness to acute observers. Both General Jacob and Sir Charles Napier had prophesied that the Mutiny would take place. As is well known, the outbreak was immediately provoked by the sepoys' belief that their cartridges were greased with the fat of cows and pigs. To their everlasting honour the Sowars of the Poona Horse remained loyal to their salt. Their presence at Sirur had a salutary effect on the surrounding country, especially in view of the mutiny of a Cavalry regiment of the Hyderabad contingent at Aurangabad.

Shortly after the arrival of the Headquarters of the regiment at Sirur, various detachments were called upon for service against the Bheels and other rebel bands. A party, under Ressaidar Ahmed Bux Khan, was present at the engagement with Bhagojee Naick at Nansoor on the 4th October, when Lieutenant Henry of the police was killed. The gallant conduct of Ressaidar Ahmed Bux Khan was brought to notice in a Government Resolution dated 9th October, 1857.





On 5th October Lieutenant Smith, Second-in-Command, with 200 Sabres, joined Colonel Macan's Force, serving against Bhagojee Naick's adherent in the Nuggar districts, and were present at the affair of Sumsherpore; another party under Ressaidar Nizamodin Khan, 50 Sabres strong, was present in an affair near Mandwell. Captain Torin Thatcher, reporting on this engagement, writes: "Their conduct was the admiration of us all." Thirteen Sabres served with Captain Nuttall against the same Naick, and were present during the operations that took place between the 4th November and 21st December, which resulted in the capture or death of 36 of the band, Bhagojee Naick's brother being amongst the slain. The splendid and soldier-like conduct of the men on the occasion was brought prominently to notice by Captain Nuttall in his official reports to Government; and the same officer in 1879, when Brigadier-General Commanding at Kandahar, in a letter to the Commandant, Poona Horse, dated 23rd February, writes:—

I cannot let this opportunity pass without prominently bringing to your notice the name of Dafedar Mussood Khan, of the regiment under your command, who, in December, 1857, in the action of Wussurhura, saved my life, and whose services at the time were also duly and specially reported to Government and to the regiment; for his conduct on this and another occasion, at the relief of Peint in the same month, he was promoted to Dafedar. He displayed on both these occasions conspicuous bravery, and I would here most earnestly beg to recommend him for the most coveted distinction of the "Order of Merit."

5. I must here add that, in the engagement at Wassurhura, the names of all the men of your regiment, twelve in number, who composed the gallant band that charged, with me, some hundreds of the enemy, were mentioned, and their services reported to Government, and your regiment as having behaved with the most dashing gallantry.

## 1858

Fifty Sabres were present with the Field Force, under Captain Pottinger, at the engagement of Mahadeo Kopahar, which resulted in the dispersion of Bhagojee Naick's band.

Two hundred Sabres, under Lieutenant La Touche, Second-in-Command, served with the Sathpoora Field Force under

Major Evans; one-half of these were present at the action of Amba Panee on 11th April, and the remainder, under Lieutenant La Touche's personal command, were present, on the same day, with Captain Sealy's column at the action of Daba Bowree, their steadiness under fire on that day being particularly brought to notice by Captain Sealy; whilst Major Evans in his report after Amba Panee, writes: "The more credit is due that, on this, as in every instance their services have been required, no ground, however difficult and apparently impracticable, was even for a moment suffered to obstruct their progress or to impair their usefulness." The uniform good conduct of the whole detachment was commented on by Major Evans on the breaking up of the Force.

Lieutenant La Touche, with 200 Sabres, accompanied the Field Force in pursuit of Tantia Topee, the celebrated guerilla warrior. During the pursuit Brigadier Parkes's column marched consecutively 240 miles in ten days, Brigadier Somerset's 230 miles in nine days, and again 70 miles in forty-eight hours, Colonel Holmes's (through a sandy desert) 54 miles in four days. Yet Tantia Topee slipped through them all—through enemies watching every issue of the jungles in which he lay concealed, only to fall at last through the treachery of a trusted friend. With his capture the war in Central India came to an end.

Other detachments were employed under Major Powell and Captain Bowditch in various minor operations in the Poona, Nuggar, and Khandesh districts. G.G.O. No. 997, dated 13th October, 1858, republishes G.O.G.I. No. 1,306 sanctioning the regiments in the service of the East India Company, which were employed with the recent expedition to Persia, to wear on their standards and appointments the word "Persia"; those regiments that were present at the actions of "Reshire" and "Kooshab" to bear those words in addition to the word "Persia."

1859

G.C.O. No. 920, dated 15th November, republishes G.O.G.I. No. 1404 of 1859, admitting Risaldar Khunday Rao Pole and

Sowars Ghulam Hoosain Khan and Shumsodin, Poona Horse, to the Third Class of the "Order of Merit" from 3rd March, 1857, for conspicuous bravery and gallantry at the Battle of Khushab; and G.G.O. No. 199 republishes a G.O. by the Government of India, dated 19th March, 1860, admitting Wordie-Major Shaik Hoosain Bux to the same for conspicuous bravery and gallant conduct in the same battle.

Khushab was added to the regimental honours.

A detachment of the regiment was this year employed against the rebel Bheels in the Khandesh district.

### 1860

A reduction of 200 Sabres was ordered this year, and the designation changed to the Poona Horse.

### 1861

On the reorganization of the Bombay Cavalry a reduction of 32 Sabres was ordered, with effect from 1st January, reducing the number to 12 Troops of 720 of all ranks; these were divided into two regiments of equal strength, designated the 4th and 5th Regiments, Poona Silladar Cavalry, and later in the same year to the 1st and 2nd Regiments Poona Horse.

The ranks were as follows:—

1 Commandant, 1 Second in Command, 1 Adjutant, 2 Duty Officers, 1 Assistant Surgeon, 1 Russaldar Major, 2 Russaldars, 2 Russaidars, 6 Jemedars, 1 Wordee-Major, 1 Kote Duffadar Major, 1 Farrier Major, 1 Trumpet Major, 30 Duffudars, 6 Pay Duffudars, 3 Nishan Burdars, 6 Trumpeters, 300 Sowars.

The 1st Poona Horse, under command of Captain Westropp, was ordered to Malligaum, whilst the 2nd Poona Horse remained at Sirur and Captain Moore was appointed to the command. G.G.O. No. 191, dated 11th April, 1861, notifies that Her Majesty has been pleased to permit the Poona Horse, with other regiments, to bear the word "Bushire" on its regimental appointments and standards.

### 1862

The Bombay Cavalry was reduced in July, and the 2nd Poona Horse was, with other regiments, disbanded. The establish-

ment of the remaining regiment (called in future the Poona Horse) was fixed at 499 Sabres, which, with 18 supernumeraries, allowed to remain until gradually absorbed, made a total of 517 Sabres. The headquarters remained at Sirur, and almost all the outposts in the Poona and Nuggar districts were withdrawn.

The number of officers, native officers, and non-commissioned officers was fixed as follows:—

1 Commandant, 1 Second in Command, 1 Adjutant, 2 Duty Officers, 1 Assistant Surgeon, 1 Russaldar Major, 2 Russaldars, 1 Wordee-Major, 3 Russaidars, 6 Naib Russaldars, 6 Jemedars, 1 Kote Duffadar Major, 1 Farrier Major, 6 Nishan Burdars, 30 Duffudars, 6 Kote Duffudars, 6 Trumpeters, 30 Naiks.

### 1863

G.G.O. No. 209 republishes G.O.G.I. No. 222, dated 23rd March, admitting Risaldar Ahmed Ali Khan to the 3rd Class of the "Order of British India," with the title of Bahadur, from 24th December, 1862.

### 1864

A detachment was ordered to Baroda for escort duty with the Resident.

### 1865

A troop, under a native officer, was ordered to garrison Sholapore.

### 1866

The few remaining men on outpost duty in the Ahmednuggar district were withdrawn.

### 1867 AND 1868

G.G.O. No. 97 republishes G.O.G.I. No. 70 of 1867, admitting Risaldar-Major Khunda Rao Pole to the 2nd Class of the "Order of British India," with the title of Bahadur, from 22nd February, 1865. On the 5th November the troop at Sholapore was withdrawn, and on the 7th, the 1st and 2nd Squadrons, 250 Sabres strong, marched for Bombay *en route*



to Jacobabad. The squadrons embarked in transports on 21st November, under command of Captain La Touche, and arrived at Jacobabad on 15th January following, where they remained until the close of the Abyssinian War; the uniform good conduct of the men during its stay there eliciting complimentary orders from Sir H. Green, K.C.S.I. and C.B., Colonel Phayre, C.B. and A.D.C.Q., and General Sir G. Malcolm, K.C.B., Commanding the Division. The wing left Jacobabad for Sirur on 22nd October, and arrived on 20th January following, having been detained a short time in Bombay for escort duty with His Excellency the Governor on the occasion of the arrival of Lord Mayo, Viceroy and Governor-General of India. In February some men of the Baroda party distinguished themselves in an engagement with rebel Naickaras in Guzerat. Naib Risaldar Mohamed Khan, commanding the detachment, and 10 Sowars had, on the breaking out of the Naickara rebellion, been placed under the orders of Captain McLeod, commanding a field detachment. On the 16th they attacked the rebels at the village of Narck, killing some of their leaders and dealing such a blow to the rebellion as led to submission of the Naickaras. Naib Risaldar Mohamed Khan fell pierced with arrows, and the official reports announcing his death testified to his great gallantry during the engagement; whilst Government, as a mark of their approbation, brought his name to notice in G.O.G. No. 161, dated 9th March, 1868. G.G.O. No. 254 republishes G.O.G.I. No. 334, dated 1st April, promoting Risaldar Ahmed Ali Khan, Bahadur, Poona Horse, to the 1st Class of the "Order of British India," with the title of Sirdar Bahadur, from 11th November, 1867. Two squadrons being absent at Jacobabad, and the third in Khandesh, Risaldar Ahmed Ali Khan, S.B., was called into Poona and on 24th April presented with the Star of the Order, on a Brigade parade in the presence of the Poona garrison, by the Brigadier-General Commanding Poona Division.

## 1869

His Excellency, Lord Napier of Magdala, G.C.B. and G.C.S.I., inspected the wing at Bombay, under Captain La Touche, on 24th January, and expressed his approbation at the appearance of men and horses, and stated his satisfaction at learning, both from Colonel Sir Henry Green, K.C.S.I. and C.B., and Colonel Phayre, C.B., Commandants of the Sind Frontier Field Force, of the excellent manner in which the wing conducted itself during the time it served under their commands, and which, His Lordship considered, was most creditable to all ranks.

The Baroda and a portion of the Khandesh detachments were relieved this year.

In 1869 a change was effected in the horse appointments of the Regiment; the old khogirs and bridles of country leather were abandoned, and the men provided with saddles, bridles, and numdahs obtained from England.

The dress was also altered, the alkhalick being shortened, about 1 foot in length, to suit the change in horse equipment, and a uniform pattern of puggree or head-dress adopted.

## 1870

Major-General the Honourable A. A. Gordon, C.B., took the annual inspection on 22nd and 23rd March, and expressed his entire approval of the Regiment, both in its interior economy and its appearance and manner of working on parade. On 1st October, the regiment paraded in review order for the inspection of His Excellency Sir A. Spencer, K.C.B., Commander-in-Chief, who afterwards visited the lines and hospital, and was pleased to express his approval of the regiment in every respect. One troop, under Lieutenant C. M. Erskine, marched to Poona on 20th October, to take the escort and orderly duties on the departure of the 3rd Light Cavalry from that station in course of relief, and pending the arrival of the 1st Lancers. Major-General Grant, C.B., took the annual inspection of the regiment on the 21st and 22nd November, and assured the Commandant that he would have much

pleasure in reporting to His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief the high state of efficiency in which he had found the regiment. The Baroda detachment was this year withdrawn.

## 1871

The troop at Poona, having been relieved by a squadron 1st Lancers in January, left for Kulludgee for duty there.

The following extract from the Bombay Army List, dated the 1st of January of this year, is of interest, showing as it does the distribution of British Officers:—

Season of Appointment.	Name, Rank, and Corps.	Cadre.	Date of Army Rank.	Date of Appointment.	Remarks.
1841	Colonel R. M. Westropp, Bombay Infantry.	14th N.I.	16th July, 1869.	1st Feb., 1860.	Commandant.
1850	Major C. D. La Touche, Staff Corps.	14th N.I.	29th July, 1870.	2nd Jan., 1858.	Second in Command.
1855	Captain R. G. T. Stevenson, 2nd Cavalry.	2nd Cavalry.	6th Dec., 1862.	15th Feb., 1867.	Second Squadron Officer.
1858	Captain H. H. D. Owen, 2nd Cavalry.	2nd Cavalry.	23rd Aug., 1869.	17th Nov., 1864.	Third Squadron Officer.
1858	Captain G. C. Hogg, 2nd Cavalry.	2nd Cavalry.	27th Oct., 1870.	16th Feb., 1863.	Adjutant.
1857	Captain J. Phillips, Staff Corps.	33rd Foot.	27th Nov., 1869.	23rd May, 1864.	First Squadron Subaltern.
1860	Lieut. C. M. Erskine, Staff Corps.	103rd Foot.	30th July, 1862.	4th Aug., 1866.	Second Squadron Subaltern.
1859	Assist. - Surgeon D. Simpson, M.D.	—	10th Feb., 1859.	18th Feb., 1867.	In Medical charge.
—	Rissaldar Ahmed Ali Khan.	—	—	18th Nov., 1867.	Sirdar Bahadur.

## 1872

The annual inspection was taken on 8th and 9th January, when Major-General Grant, C.B., expressed his satisfaction with the regiment in every respect.

G.G.O. No. 93, dated 31st January, publishes the following extract from a Military letter from the Right Honourable the Secretary of State for India:—

13. Her Majesty has been pleased to grant permission to the Poona Horse to wear on its colours and appointments the word "Coregaon" in commemoration of the part taken by a detachment of the corps, then called the "Poona Auxiliary Horse," in an engagement with the Peishwa's Army.

### 1873

Rifled muzzle-loading carbines were sanctioned this year in place of smooth-bores.

During the visit of the Regiment to Bombay in the previous year, Naik Gufran Khan gave information which led to the apprehension of a noted rebel, for whose capture a reward of Rs. 5,000 had been offered; for his active loyalty His Excellency the Governor-General was pleased to sanction the promotion of this non-commissioned officer to the rank of ~~Jamadar~~, with effect from 11th November, 1872, to be borne as supernumerary until absorbed by a promotion in the higher ranks (G.G.O. No. 565 of 1873). Jamadar Gufran Khan was also presented with a pecuniary reward of Rs. 500. The services of this gallant officer are recorded in the following Regimental Order by Colonel Westropp, dated 1st September, 1873:—

In holding up the successful career of Jamadar Gufran Khan as an example to the regiment of conspicuous service on the part of a soldier, with due appreciation and reward for the same by the State, the Commanding Officer would take the opportunity of bringing prominently to notice the advantage of serving the Sirkar with fidelity and devotion. No motives of caste or relationship should ever be allowed to interfere with a good soldier in the discharge of duties due to the Government he may be serving, and all ranks may rest assured that conspicuous loyalty to the State, no matter what may be the rank of the individual performing it, cannot fail to attract the notice of superior authority.

Enlisted as a youth in 1863, Jamadar Gufran Khan gave early signs of his feelings towards his officers by his conduct on the occasion of the murderous assault made on the Commanding Officer and Adjutant on the 1st March, 1864, for which he was promoted to the rank of Naik. Since that time he has invariably conducted his duties to the satisfaction of his superiors, and in November last he gave crowning proof of his loyalty by giving notice of the presence, in Bombay, of a notorious mutineer of high rank who had taken a conspicuous part in the rebellion of 1857, for which service he has now received his present reward.

Gufran Khan, who was later promoted to Bessaidar, met with a soldier's death, being killed in action at Deh Khoja, near Kandahar, on 14th August, 1880.

The headquarters and two squadrons were present at the Camp of Exercise formed at Chinchwad by His Excellency Sir A. Spencer, K.C.B., during the month of December.

The Kulludgee detachment was withdrawn about the end of the year.

### 1874

Captain H. Owen, with 150 Sabres, left Sirur on 17th February and proceeded, by rail, from Khedgaon to Bombay, a *fracas* being anticipated during the Mohurram festival between the Parsis and Mohamedans.

Major La Touche, accompanied by Surgeon Gordon, was ordered on the 20th to take command of the party, which returned to Sirur on 28th March in time for the annual inspection, which was taken by General Grant on the 30th and 31st, who expressed his satisfaction that, on this, as at the last inspection, he found the regiment in a high and most creditable state of efficiency.

Risaldar-Major Hoosain Bux was admitted to the 2nd Class of the "Order of British India," with the title of Bahadur, from the 31st December, 1873, by G.G.O., No. 263, dated 16th April, republishing G.O.G.I., No. 330, of 1874.

This year polo was introduced into the regiment, and the first games played on the parade ground at Sirur.

### 1875

Major-General Lord Mark Kerr, C.B., on the conclusion of the annual inspection on 10th January, expressed his great approval of the efficient state of the regiment.

In consequence of the bad feeling prevailing between the ryots and bunneahs, small parties under native officers were employed in the Nuggar and Poona Districts, on emergent requisitions of the Magistrates, to preserve order during the months of May, June, and July.

Captain G. Hogg proceeded to Poona in August with 60

Sabres, in order to submit, for His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief's approval, a system of mounted Infantry he had lately arranged.

On 6th October Headquarters and one squadron marched from Sirur to Bombay to take part in the reception of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, and were joined at Tanna by the squadron from Khandesh; the remaining squadron of the regiment proceeded in November to Poona for escort and orderly duty, and on the visit of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, Captain Hogg exercised them in drill in his presence.

On the return march from Bombay the regiment was detained for a week in Poona, and took part in the autumn manœuvres organized by His Excellency Sir C. Staveley, and returned to Sirur on 20th December.

## 1876

The annual inspection was taken by Lord Mark Kerr, C.B., on 27th and 28th January, and he expressed his satisfaction with the high state of efficiency in which he found the regiment. His Excellency Sir C. Staveley visited Sirur on 24th August, and, after inspecting the Poona Horse, was pleased to express his entire satisfaction.

G.G.O. No. 19, dated 10th January, 1877, republishes G.O.G.I. No. 1 of 1st idem, sanctioning increased pay for the native officers, to have effect from 1st January, 1877, the date of assumption of the title of "Empress of India" by Her Majesty.

G.G.O. No. 20 contains G.O.G.I. No. 2, announcing to the native Armies of India that, in order still further to record Her Imperial Majesty's appreciation of the services of the native officers, the Right Honourable the Secretary of State for India sanctions an increase to the "Order of British India," and, in pursuance of the above, Risaldar-Major Hoosain Bux was promoted to the 1st Class on augmentation, with the title of Sirdar Bahadur, from 1st January. G.G.O. No. 21, contains G.O.G.I. No. 3, altering the designations of the British officers, who, with the exception of the Commandant, were placed in two classes: Squadron Officers,

including the Second-in-Command, to be designated Squadron Commanders ; Squadron Subalterns to be designated Squadron Officers.

The annual inspection concluded on 30th January, when Lord Mark Kerr congratulated the regiment on maintaining its high state of efficiency.

The grade of Naib Risaldar was abolished by G.G.O. No. 208, dated 21st March ; the existing Naib Risaldars were promoted to Ressaidars, but restricted to the pay and pension of their former rank until they would otherwise be promoted ; the supernumeraries in the grade of Ressaidar were absorbed by the promotion of 2 Jamadars for every three vacancies in the rank of Ressaidar. The strength of the regiment was thus reduced by 6 Sabres.

On 19th September Headquarters moved into Poona to take part in the reception of His Excellency the Viceroy on his visit to the capital of the Deccan, returning to Sirur on the 26th of the same month. During this visit the regiment sustained a heavy loss by the death of Wordie-Major Gunput Rao Dewkur, who died from the effect of snake-bite in Poona ; a distinguished, brave, and energetic officer, who was decorated with the Order of Merit for conspicuous bravery during the Indian Mutiny, whilst serving in the Southern Mahratta Horse.

A slight alteration in the dress of the native officers was ordered this year, steel scabbards being substituted for the leather ones hitherto in use.

## 1878

The annual inspection was concluded on 13th February, Major-General Primrose, C.S.I., expressing himself highly satisfied. In April the regiment furnished parties to Bombay and Poona for escort and orderly duty in relief of the 1st Lancers, who proceeded with the Expedition to Malta ; and, to enable that regiment to start efficiently equipped, the Poona Horse was called on to supply them with baggage animals, syces, and water mussels.

The squadron in Khandesh was this year withdrawn, and

the whole regiment concentrated at Sirur. The 2nd prize for Military Drawing, given by the United Service Institution of India, was awarded to Dafedar Mir Wuzirudin, Poona Horse; his success was recognized by His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief in the following order:—

QUARTER-MASTER-GENERAL'S OFFICE, POONA,  
24th October, 1878.

The Commander-in-Chief has been much gratified to learn that Dafedar Mir Wazirudin, of the Poona Horse, obtained the 2nd prize for Military Drawing, awarded by the United Service Institution of India.

His Excellency cannot impress too strongly on Commanding Officers the importance of this branch of Military education, and he trusts that the success obtained by Dafedar Mir Wazirudin, so creditable to himself and to his regiment, may invite others to follow his example.

Early in November the regiment volunteered for service in Afghanistan, and received orders to hold itself in readiness; but in the middle of the month the order was countermanded in a letter from the Quartermaster-General, in which it is stated: "His Excellency was anxious to give the regiment an opportunity for seeing service, and much regrets their services are not required at present."

## 1879

This year a change in the armament of the regiment was ordered: the muzzle-loading carbines, hitherto provided at the expense of the men, were replaced by snider carbines supplied by Government, who took over the old arms at a valuation.

Blouses and loongies were introduced as the ordinary dress of the regiment and for British officers on all mounted duties with their men.—Adjutant-General's Memo. No. 22-7c., dated 1st November, 1878.

Brigadier-General Howard Vyse took the annual inspection on 21st and 22nd January, and the following remarks by His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief were published in Regimental Orders:—



A satisfactory report in every respect, and reflecting credit on Lieutenant-Colonel La Touche and the officers of the regiment.

From 24th February until the close of the year the regiment was employed in several detachments, varying in strength from 15 Sabres to a troop, in suppressing the dacoits in the Deccan—a very arduous and harassing duty, requiring long marches by day and by night, over a large extent of country, principally on the hills and ghats; the ground was almost impracticable for Cavalry, and the rainfall during the monsoon was excessive. The services of Dafedar Sirdar Ali, as a detective, were specially recognized in Government Resolution No. 1745, dated 10th March, 1880, in the following terms:—

Para. 20. Dafedar Sirdar Ali, Poona Horse, did excellent service, both as a detective and in making arrests, and was most indefatigable in his exertions. The Military Department should be requested to bring his services to the notice of His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief with a view of his being promoted on the first suitable occasion.

The services of the men employed under Major Wise, Superintendent of Police, were also mentioned in the same Government Resolution as entitled to much praise. His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief—in letter No. 1276, from the Adjutant-General, dated 29th October—was pleased to express his approbation of the conduct of a detachment in an attack on a gang of dacoits in the vicinity of Saswud, especially noticing Jamadar Nubeedad Khan and Lance-Naik Gulzar Khan. The several Superintendents of Police, under whose orders the men were employed, reported in the highest terms on their behaviour, stating that no matter how hard the rain poured, or how impracticable the rocky hills traversed were for Cavalry, and how much discomfort the men suffered, they never once observed the slightest disposition on the part of the men to shirk their onerous duties.

The Superintendents of Police also bore testimony to the efficiency of the transport arrangements of the corps. Major Daniel, Superintendent, Poona District, writes:—

The Poona Horse possesses a very great advantage over other corps I have seen here in being supplied with pony carriage. The

result is, they can move literally as soon as the horses can be saddled and the baggage packed on the ponies, and they can travel over any country. On one occasion I marched with a detachment over 100 miles in less than forty hours; but whenever we halted for a few hours, the men's baggage was up, and they were able to get food for themselves, and to make their horses and selves as comfortable as they would in their own lines, within an hour of dismounting. Without this pony carriage our movements would have been completely hampered in this country, where Cavalry may at any moment be called on to travel long distances.

Major Westmacott writes:—

I applied for Government mule carriage for the Infantry, and when it was really tested against the baggage ponies, the latter had the best of it by hours.

The same officer, in describing further operations, says:—

Six horses of the Poona Horse slipped off the path and rolled down distances varying from 18 to 50 feet; the rain was incessant, and six nullahs were crossed in heavy flood; the ponies were again up within a few hours of the men; the mule carriage broke down altogether; 3 died from exhaustion and want of forage, and 18 out of 35 went sick.

Further on, describing the end of this week's severe marching, he writes:—

The whole of the mules did not turn up, and then had left their tents behind; 3 mules died and 13 were sent back sick to Poona. Out of 35 of the ponies, some—I cannot give the exact number—were laid up with sore backs; but all, with one exception, were fit to work again on the 7th. We have marched over some 600 miles in wet and dry, over hills and through deep mud, and the pony carriage has never failed.

In the course of the year 1878 the Russian Government, to counteract the interference of England with their advance upon Constantinople, sent an Envoy to Kabul empowered to make a treaty with the Amir Shere Ali. The latter was immediately notified from India that a British Mission would be deputed to his capital, but he demurred to receiving it, and when the British Envoy was turned back on the Afghan Frontier hostilities were proclaimed by the Viceroy, and in November, 1878, the second Afghan War commenced.

The regiment received orders to hold itself in readiness for

active service, and was told off to Sir Donald Stewart's Force, which was to advance on Kandahar through Baluchistan and the Bolan Pass.

An augmentation of 85 Sabres was ordered, and in seven months this number were raised, horsed, and equipped.

## 1880

Major-General Primrose, C.S.I., took the annual inspection on the 21st, 22nd, and 23rd January, and expressed his entire satisfaction with the regiment in all respects, and felt sure, from his knowledge of it, that the corps would sustain its prestige, when called upon to do so, in the coming campaign. On 28th January the regiment left Sirur for service in Southern Afghanistan—strength, 7 British officers and 450 Sabres, Lieutenant-Colonel La Touche in Command—and embarked at Bombay for Karachi in four detachments, between the 6th and 15th February, and from Karachi the regiment was conveyed to Sibi by troop trains. The 1st and 3rd Squadrons, under Major Stevenson, marched for Quetta on the 15th March, and from that station one squadron, under Captain C. M. Erskine, was detached to Kush Dil Khan via Gwal. The Headquarters arrived at Quetta on the 7th April, when the squadron under Major Stevenson rejoined, and, after a few days' halt, the regiment proceeded on to Kandahar by forced marches, arriving on 1st May, having left 40 Sabres at Chaman and parties at each post on the line of communication between that place and Kandahar.

On the 23rd April Major R. G. T. Stevenson died at Quetta, after thirteen years' service with the regiment as Squadron Commander, the last four of which he was Second-in-Command. The following Regimental Order was published on the 25th April :—

It is with extreme regret that the Commanding Officer has to announce the death of Major Stevenson, which melancholy event occurred at Quetta, on the morning of the 23rd inst., after thirteen years' connection with the regiment. He has passed away while the corps is on service, fulfilling to the last all his duties in the same quiet and conscientious manner he invariably did in time of peace.

The Commanding Officer feels sure all ranks join him in expressing deep sorrow at his being thus cut off at comparatively so early and promising a period of his career.

A party at Chaman, under the command of Naik Neaz Ali Khan, shortly after their arrival there, distinguished themselves by capturing 12 men who had looted a convoy on the Khojak Pass, and recovering nearly all the loot; starting at 11 p.m., the party followed the robbers all night through dense jungle, coming up with them at daybreak in a nullah, recovered most of the property, and secured the thieves. They received the commendation of the Lieutenant-General Commanding Southern Afghanistan Field Force for "their determination, forbearance, and soldier-like conduct."

On 28th July 50 Sabres, under Captain Anderson, accompanied General Brooke's Force, sent from Kandahar to assist the return of the survivors from the Battle of Maiwand; for conspicuous bravery on this day 3 Non-Commissioned Officers and 4 Sowars were recommended for the Order of Merit. On the close of this day the regiment, with the rest of the Kandahar garrison, was withdrawn from cantonments into the city. At first they were crowded up in a corner of the citadel, after which they were sent to the Shah's stables in the city, where they remained until the end of the siege. For the first few days the regiment (together with the rest of the Cavalry Brigade) was constantly ordered out at a moment's notice, but without coming into collision with the enemy.

At the special request of the principal inhabitants, a dismounted guard of the regiment was placed over the sacred building containing the Prophet's mantle.

On 3rd August, on the village of Khairabad being cleared, the soldiers of Ayub were met with for the first time; no casualties amongst either men or horses occurred; for the next fortnight nothing of any consequence took place beyond the daily routine of picquets, covering and working parties, and dismounted guards on the walls at night: all these duties were very-severe, so much so that after the first few days the Cavalry were relieved from working parties; with the guard duty and patrols the men only got a fraction over one night

in bed. In one of the reconnaissances Lieutenant-Colonel Phillips, Second-in-Command, was slightly wounded.

Late on the evening of the 15th August an order was received for 100 Sabres, with as many British officers as possible, to parade at 4 a.m. the next day at the Eedgah Gate, to take part in a sortie on Deh Khoja. After a long trot of six miles the Cavalry Brigade found itself hemmed in between Deh Khoja and another village, in a country cut up by walls 4 feet high and wide water-courses, where they were fired into from all sides; after losing nearly 25 per cent. of horses and a number of men, including Risaldar Gufran Khan killed, and Surgeon Stewart slightly wounded, Major Hogg, Brigade-Major Cavalry Brigade, and Lieutenant Minchin, Adjutant of the Regiment, both having their horses killed, the order was given to retire by the Cabul Gate, which was in time effected. Two Sowars, who were with Brigadier-General Brooke as orderlies, were recommended for the Order of Merit for gallant conduct during this action.

The advance party of General Sir F. Roberts' Force was signalled on 27th August, when Captain Anderson, with 50 Sabres, escorted the Political Agent, the Assistant Quartermaster-General, and other officers to Rohat, at which place Brigadier-General Sir H. Gough, Commanding the Cavalry Brigade, had arrived.

The regiment was present at the Battle of Kandahar on 1st September, and when Ayub Khan's forces were retreating, was sent to the Murcha Pass, to prevent any of the enemy escaping that way. On 9th September the regiment, with 3rd Sind Horse, the whole under Lieutenant-Colonel La Touche, accompanied the Force sent under command of Brigadier-General Daubeney to Maiwand to bury the dead, returning on the 23rd to Kokran, in the valley of the Argandab, where it was joined by the squadron from Kush dil Khan and the detachments from the line of communication.

The detachment at Kush Dil Khan was, on 23rd July, reduced to 50 Sabres, the remainder being ordered to join Headquarters at Kandahar.

On the withdrawal of the troops into the city of Kandahar,

orders were sent for the troops on the line of communication to retire and concentrate at Chaman. Major Jacob, 19th Native Infantry, who commanded, in his report, published in G.G.O. No. 645 of this year, reports most favourably on the conduct and bearing of 97 Sabres, Poona Horse, under his command, especially noticing Risaldar Mohamed Sha Khan, Kote Dafedar Kisson Sing, and Dafedar Jahangir Khan.

At 1 a.m. on the 24th August, the Officer Commanding the detachment at Kush Dil Khan received orders to march at once and join General Phayre's Force at Killa Abdpolla. The detachment left at once, and on the 28th arrived at Murga Chaman, where Major Erskine assumed command of the several parties of the regiment employed on the line of communication. These, with the party from Kush Dil Khan, amounted to 215 Sabres. This body formed the Divisional Cavalry of General Phayre's Force, and arrived at Kandahar on 3rd September; after a halt of a few days, it was ordered to Kokran, and rejoined Headquarters on the return of General Daubeny's Force on the 23rd idem.

Revolvers were this year issued to the native officers, Kote Dafedars, and Trumpeters.

On 3rd November the regiment moved into Kandahar cantonments, and on the 13th were inspected by Lieutenant-General Hume, C.B., Commanding Southern Afghanistan Field Force.

## 1881

On 20th January the regiment left Kandahar with a force under Brigadier-General Wilkinson, ordered to Maiwand, and returned to cantonments on 12th February.

The following is an extract from G.O.C. No. 87 of 1881, republishing remarks by Lieutenant-General Hume, C.B., on his inspection of the regiments comprising the Kandahar Garrison:—

*Poona Horse.*—The Poona Horse, under command of Lieutenant-Colonel La Touche, turned out extremely well, and are a very serviceable, efficient-looking Cavalry regiment, well mounted, chiefly on Arab horses, in good working condition. The men ride

well, and the regiment altogether gives me the idea of being well commanded and in good order, and likely to do good service if called upon.

G.O. No. 87 republishes G.O.G.I. No. 58 of 4th February, admitting General Nos. 359 and 494, Lance-Naiks Mohamed Seedick Khan and Inayat Russool Khan, to the 3rd Class of the Order of Merit for conspicuous gallantry in action at Deh Khoja, near Kandahar, on 16th August, 1880, on which occasion they charged down a street of the village in order to clear the way for the late Brigadier-General Brooke (whose orderlies they were) and a small party of the 7th Fusiliers, who were at the time surrounded by the enemy. In cutting their way through the enemy, Inayat Russool Khan received four severe wounds, and his comrade's horse was severely wounded.

G.O. No. 90 republishes G.O.G.I. No. 60 of the same date, admitting Dafedar Hameedulla Khan, Dafedar Actur Nawaz Khan, Naik Mohamed Essack Khan, Lance-Naik Goolshair Khan, Sowars Ameer Khan, Shaik Hoosain, and Baboo Rao Khanvelkar, to the same class of the Order for conspicuous gallantry in action on the banks of the Argandab on 28th July, 1880, when serving with the detachments sent out under the command of the late Brigadier-General Brooke to help into Kandahar the remnants of General Burrows' Force, then retreating from Maiwand.

Brigadier-General Wilkinson, Commanding Cavalry Brigade, Southern Afghanistan Field Force, took the annual inspection on 1st March and following days, and his report on the same was published in G.O.C. No. 308 of 1881, as follows:—

The following Memo. by Brigadier-General Wilkinson, Commanding Cavalry Brigade, Southern Afghanistan Field Force, is published for information:—

“KOKIRAN, 12th March, 1881.

“The Brigadier-General Commanding the Cavalry Brigade, having completed the annual inspection, has had much pleasure in reporting favourably on the general state of efficiency in which he finds that corps, notwithstanding the arduous duties on which they have been engaged for the last two years, involving hardships and privations, which account for the low condition of the horses.

“Brigadier-General Wilkinson congratulates Colonel La Touche

and all under his command on the admirable manner in which the Poona Horse performed their drill, on their discipline, good conduct and health."

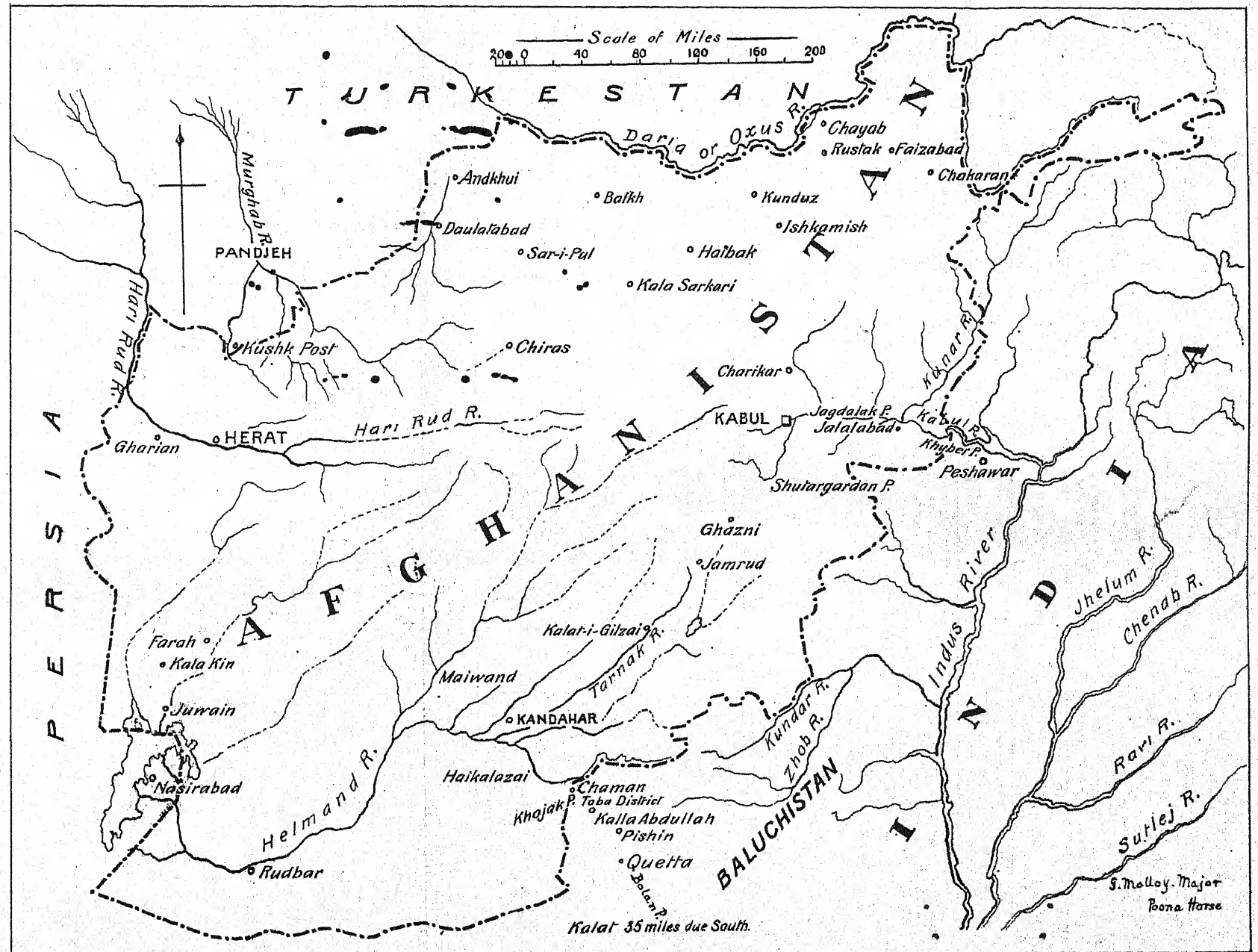
On 30th March Lieutenant-General Hume presented Lance-Naiks Mohamed Seedick Khan and Inayat Russool Khan with the medals of the 3rd Class of the Order of Merit, and expressed his gratification at being able to hand the decorations to two Lance-Naiks who especially distinguished themselves in a sortie in which all concerned behaved with great bravery; and again, on 9th May, General Hume, at Quetta, presented medals of the same Order to 7 Non-Commissioned Officers and men mentioned in G.O.G.I. No. 60 of 1881, on which occasion he addressed the regiment in the following terms :—

I have much pleasure in presenting to these men the medals of the Order of Merit. I had intended to do so at a parade of the whole garrison, but difficulties about the ground prevented this. This is now the second occasion on which I have presented similar medals to men of the regiment for their conduct at and about Kandahar. Since the regiment has been under my command there has been no opportunity of gaining fresh distinctions; but had such occurred, I am sure it would fully have maintained its reputation. The Regiment is now returning to enjoy its well-earned rest after the past fifteen months' campaigning in this country, and all in it should feel proud that nine are wearing the Order of Merit for their services there. I am sure it will keep up in quarters its efficiency, and, should it be called on again, it will be ready to take its place at once. In conclusion, I wish all a pleasant march down and happy return to their homes and families.

The regiment commenced its return march to India on 22nd April, and with D/B Royal Horse Artillery and 13th Hussars, formed, under the command of Brigadier-General Wilkinson, the rear-guard of General Hume's Force on the evacuation of Kandahar. It was conveyed from Peer Chowkee to Karachi by rail, and thence by sea, in four detachments to Bombay, and thence again by rail to Kirkee, the Headquarters arriving at Sirur on 6th June.

The regiment lost in Southern Afghanistan Ressaider Gufran Khan and Sowar Reaztolla Khan killed in action, and 1 Major and 15 Sabres from disease.





London; Hugh Rees Ltd.



G.G.O. No. 497 republishes G.O.G.I. No. 418, dated 29th July, 1881, notifying that Her Majesty the Queen-Empress has been graciously pleased to permit, amongst other corps, the Poona Horse to wear on its standards and appointments "Kandahar, 1881," and "Afghanistan, 1879-80," in commemoration of its gallant conduct during the campaign in Southern Afghanistan, this making twelve honorary distinctions on the standard. His Excellency the Right Honourable Sir James Fergusson, Bart., K.C.M.G., Governor of Bombay, visited Sirur on 25th July, and was received with a Guard of Honour, with the Band and Standard of the Poona Horse. He inspected the lines of the regiment, including the Library, and expressed his satisfaction with all he saw. Subsequently, as a memento of his visit, he presented a copy of his likeness for the Library.

His Excellency Lieutenant-General the Honourable A. Hardinge, C.B., Commander-in-Chief, on 2nd September, inspected the regiment at Sirur on parade, and afterwards visited the hospital and lines. His Excellency was pleased to express his perfect satisfaction with the parade movements and interior economy, the state of the lines and the condition of the horses, etc., and stated that the regiment quite bore out the favourable reports he had received from General Hume and others.

The regiment having returned from field service, the 85 extra Sabres ordered on augmentation last year were directed to be absorbed, and the regiment to return to its original strength of 487 Sabres. This was effected by the 1st January, 1882.

## 1882

On 14th January the regiment left Sirur for Poona, to take part in the Brigade drills at Poona and the exercises at Chinchwad on a larger scale. The regiment returned to Sirur on 15th February, and was inspected by Major-General Sir J. Ross, K.C.B., Commanding the Division, on the 13th March. His report on the inspection was published in the following Division Order:—

No. 288.

MAHABLESHWAR, 25th May, 1882.

Under instructions from Army Headquarters, the Major-General Commanding is pleased to notify, with reference to his annual reports on the Poona Horse, that His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief considers the state of the regiment to be very satisfactory.

On the reduction of the number of Cavalry regiments in the Bombay Army, by the disbandment of the 3rd Scinde Horse, an increase of 63 Sabres was ordered in each regiment by G.G.O. No. 267, dated 3rd May, 1882, republishing G.O.G.I. No. 210 of 1882.

By paragraph 25 of the above-quoted G.O.G.I., good-conduct pay was, with the sanction of the Secretary of State for India, granted to non-commissioned officers as follows :—

## To Dafedars—

After 2 years' good service in that grade,	Re. 1 per month.
" 4                   "                   "                   "	Rs. 2                   "
" 6                   "                   "                   "	" 3                   "
" 8                   "                   "                   "	" 4                   "

## To Naiks—

After 2 years' good service in that grade,	Re. 1 per month.
" 4                   "                   "                   "	Rs. 2                   "

Orders regulating the grant of good-conduct pay were published in Standing General Order No. 75 of 1882, republishing G.O.C. No. 106 by the Commander-in-Chief in India, dated 20th June, 1882.

Dafedar Meer Wuzirootdin gained the 2nd prize for Painting at the Soldiers' Exhibition, Poona, and Dafedar Meer Wuzirootdin, Dafedar Allum Khan, and Naick Meadin Khan were awarded the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd prizes for Military Sketches; twelve were exhibited by the non-commissioned officers and men of the regiment. His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief, in his speech at the opening of the Exhibition, favourably noticed the number of entries made by the Poona Horse, the only native regiment that competed in this class.

A squad from the 1st Squadron gained the 2nd prize in the competition for the Lyttleton-Annesley Prize at the Tenth Central Rifle Meeting, Poona.

Jamaadar Anandrao was tried by General Court Martial for

insubordination, and sentenced to suspension for three months from Rank, Pay, and Allowances; this being considered insufficient, he was summarily dismissed the service by order of His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief.

### 1883

The regiment was inspected on the 23rd January and following days by Major-General Sir J. Ross, K.C.B., who expressed himself highly pleased in every way. His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief also regarded the inspection as "satisfactory."

On the 4th February the Headquarters and two Squadrons marched to Pashan, near Poona, where they remained until the 11th of the same month, being brigaded with the rest of the Poona Garrison for field firing. After a stay of six days at Poona the regiment returned to Sirur, where it arrived on 21st February.

A squadron of the regiment took the 13th prize of Rs. 10 in the Cavalry Cureton Cup, with a score of 118.

On the 17th and 18th of August the regiment was inspected by H.E. the Commander-in-Chief, General the Honourable A. Hardinge, who expressed himself as highly pleased with the result of his inspection.

On the 17th November the Headquarters of the regiment marched to Poona to relieve the 2nd Lancers, leaving a depot of 51 Sabres at Sirur to take care of the lines and public buildings of the station.

Green throat-plumes for officers' chargers were introduced this year.

### 1884

On the 8th February the regiment paraded for the inspection of H.E. the Commander-in-Chief in India, Sir Donald Stewart, who expressed himself as highly pleased with the manœuvring of the corps.

On the 13th February the Annual Inspection of the corps was taken by Sir John Ross, K.C.B., who stated that everything was to his entire satisfaction.

On the 2nd June the regiment was inspected by the Commander-in-Chief at outpost duty.

At the Annual Assault-at-Arms in Poona, the 1st prize, with a sword for the best Man-at-Arms, Bombay Native Army, was won by Sowar Yakoot Ali Khan. The regiment also won the 1st prize for Tent-pegging, the 1st prize for the best-trained horse, besides other minor prizes. At the Annual Rifle Meeting, in Poona, the Poona Horse teams won the 1st and 2nd prizes for natives in the Lyttleton-Annesley Contest. The Guneshkhind Stakes was won by Naik Ghoolam Hoossain Khan.

### 1885

On the 1st January the regiment proceeded to Chicklee to take part in the Camp-of-Exercise, and returned on the 23rd idem.

On the 28th January the Headquarters of the regiment marched to Sirur, leaving a detachment of 100 Sabres in Poona under Lieutenant-Colonel Currie for Orderly duty.

On the 16th and 17th February the regiment was reviewed by Major-General Sir John Ross, K.C.B., and an intimation was subsequently received from Army Headquarters that the result was "very satisfactory."

On the 6th March a troop under Captain Young was ordered to Bombay on Escort duty.

On the 1st April a telegram was received from the Quarter-master-General, intimating that the regiment had been told off to the First Army Corps, and ordered to hold itself in readiness to proceed on Field Service to Afghanistan.

On the 22nd April a party of 6 Non-Commissioned Officers under Jamadar Akhtar Newaz Khan proceeded to Karachi to take charge of the Government Transport told off to the regiment.

This was the result of the now notorious "Penjdeh incident," when, in consequence of a boundary dispute between Russia and Afghanistan, orders were given for the mobilization in India of a Field Force, consisting of two Army Corps, with a Division in reserve, the intention being to despatch them to

Quetta for service to the North. The Poona Horse were detailed to form part of the 3rd Cavalry Brigade, 1st Army Corps, and were told off as the Divisional Cavalry of the 2nd Division. Matters having been satisfactorily settled, however, by the three Governments concerned, and war having been averted, the 2nd Army Corps and Reserve Division were released early in May from the warning for active service, and the remainder of the Force later in the same month.

Captain Young's troop rejoined Regimental Headquarters on the 20th May.

On the 6th and 7th August the Commander-in-Chief, General Hardinge, inspected the regiment. At the close of the parade he ordered all the officers to the front and addressed them. He stated that he considered the Poona Horse the best-drilled native regiment he had ever seen; that its high state of efficiency was not only a matter of congratulation from a regimental point of view, but was a source of strength to the State; that the Bombay Cavalry consisted of only six regiments, and the Government must, therefore, necessarily regard with satisfaction the fact that in this small force there should be a regiment in such a high state of efficiency as rendered it, in addition to its being available to be made use of in the field, a standing school of instruction for the training of the other regiments.

At the Annual Assault-at-Arms at Poona, at the close of the month, the 1st prize for the best Man-at-Arms in the Bombay Army, with a sword, was won by Naik Mozuffer Khan; also the 1st and 2nd prizes for Tent-pegging.

At the Annual Rifle Meeting at Poona the following month, the 1st prize for native teams in the Lyttleton-Annesley Contest was also taken by the Poona Horse.

An augmentation of the Bombay Cavalry was ordered by the Government of India in September, increasing the number of regiments from 6 to 7, and the strength of each individual regiment from 6 to 8 troops, raising the actual strength of each regiment to 625 Sabres. The order for the raising of the extra 75 Sabres was received on the 16th September, and the whole of the levy, including both men and horses, was

raised complete by the 11th November. This was the first occasion on which recruiting parties had ever been despatched from the Poona Horse, and they were sent to Rajputana, the Southern Mahratta country, and the Khandesh and Ahmednagar districts. The details of difference between the old and new establishments are as follows :—

<i>Old.</i>	<i>New.</i>
1 Commandant.	1 Commandant.
3 Squadron Commanders.	4 Squadron Commanders.
4 Squadron Officers.	4 Squadron Officers.
1 Medical Officer.	1 Medical Officer.
1 Risaldar Major.	1 Risaldar Major.
2 Risaldars.	3 Risaldars.
1 Wordie Major.	1 Wordie Major.
3 Ressaidars.	4 Ressaidars.
6 Jamadars.	8 Jamadars.
1 Kote Dafedar Major.	1 Kote Dafedar Major.
1 Farrier Major.	1 Farrier Major.
6 Kote Dafedars.	8 Kote Dafedars.
30 Dafedars.	32 Dafedars.
6 Trumpeters.	8 Trumpeters.
30 Naiks.	40 Naiks.
463 Sowars.	518 Sowars.

Captain Thomas was appointed 4th Squadron Commander, Lieutenant Ducat was brought on to the permanent strength of the regiment, and Lieutenants Minchin and Forster were transferred to the newly-raised regiment.

The regiments of Bombay Cavalry were renumbered, the Poona Horse being styled the 4th Bombay Cavalry (Poona Horse).

About the same time the whole of Rajputana, a portion of which had been previously excluded, was opened as a recruiting ground for the Bombay Army.

The system of Squadron Commanders putting their squadrons through an Annual Course of Training was, following the precedent of the British Service, introduced into the Bombay Cavalry in October.

### 1886

On the 7th and 8th January the Annual Inspection of the regiment was taken by Sir John Ross, K.C.B., who expressed himself as greatly pleased with the results of his final inspection.



At the Annual Assault-at-Arms, held at Poona on the 27th August, the following prizes were taken by the regiment :—

*Best Man-at-Arms.*

*Naik Kamdar Khan*, Rs. 25 and a Tulwar, presented by Major-General Nuttall.

On the 19th September the Headquarters and three squadrons left Sirur for Poona to relieve the 1st Lancers, ordered on field service to Burma. One squadron, under Captain Anderson, remained at Sirur.

On the 29th October a squadron of the regiment, under the command of Lieutenant Carthew-Yorstoun, marched to Bombay for escort duty during the visit of the Viceroy, and returned to Headquarters on the 2nd September. Lieutenant Ducat accompanied the squadron. Lieutenant Yorstoun's squadron then marched to Sirur to relieve Captain Anderson, who marched with his squadron to Poona, Lieutenant Ducat remaining in Poona.

On the 17th December the regiment was inspected at stables by His Royal Highness the Duke of Connaught, and on the 5th January following, His Royal Highness again inspected the regiment at outpost duty, the regiment covering a line of front of six miles.

## 1887

On the 24th January a system of Regimental Police was introduced into the regiment, the establishment being fixed at 1 non-commissioned officer and 4 rank and file.

At the end of February a series of long-distance rides was carried out in the mounted branches of the service. The following are the performances of the various parties of the regiment :—

*Captain Thomas' Party*: 1 Naik and 4 Sowars, accompanied by 3 baggage ponies, 134 miles on the Sholapur road, 67 out and 67 back in 41 hours. The ponies marched 116 miles in 46 hours. No sore backs amongst the horses; one pony's back slightly swollen.

*Captain Anderson's Party*: 1 Non-Commissioned Officer and 4 Sowars, 3 baggage ponies and 1 camel; Poona to Malegaon via Ahmednagar, 186 miles in 79 hours; ponies in 82 hours 45 minutes. No sore backs; only two slight swellings.

*Captain Young's Party*: 1 Non-Commissioned Officer and 4 Sowars, 3 baggage ponies and 1 camel; Poona to Malegaon via Ahmednagar,

186 miles in 60 hours and 45 minutes. One horse shod before starting went lame at the fifty-fourth milestone and was left behind; 1 horse was 8 hours and 45 minutes behind the others in arriving at Malegaon. Baggage ponies marched the 186 miles in 82 hours and 30 minutes; 1 pony slightly galled.

In all cases, times given include stoppages. Weight carried by ponies, 150 lbs.

On the 21st March the regiment marched to Sirur, arriving there on the 23rd. One hundred Sabres, under Captain Thomas, were left in Poona for orderly duty.

At the Annual Assault-at-Arms, held at Poona on the 26th and 27th August, the following prizes were taken by the regiment :—

*Best Man-at-Arms.*

Naik Kamdar Khan, winner of sword.

2nd best } also won by the Regiment.  
3rd best }

*Tent-pegging with Sword.*

1st, 2nd and 3rd prizes all won by the regiment.

*Tent-pegging with Lance.*

2nd and 3rd prizes won by the Regiment.

H.R.H. the Duke of Connaught, Commander-in-Chief Bombay Army, visited Sirur on the 8th December, inspecting the regiment on the following day. An intimation was subsequently received from Army Headquarters that "the Commander-in-Chief considered the appearance on parade and the drill of the Poona Horse at His Royal Highness's inspection at Sirur on the 9th instant most satisfactory."

During this year the regimental facings were changed from red to French grey.

## 1888

The Inspector-General of Cavalry inspected the regiment on the 17th, 18th, and 19th of February, and stated he would have much pleasure in reporting to His Royal Highness the efficient state of the regiment.

The system of watering horses at their pickets by bhisties was abolished during the month of March. A regimental trough was completed, and a large number of bhisties were discharged.

The Annual Inspection of the regiment was taken by Major-General Flood, C.B., on the 23rd and 24th February, at Sirur.

Martini-Henry carbines were issued to the regiment in lieu of Sniders, and a very marked difference in the shooting was at once apparent.

Regimental Standing Orders, in printed form, were published and issued to the regiment in English and the vernacular.

Throat plumes of French grey were introduced in place of the former green ones.

The following prizes were taken by the regiment at the Annual Assault-at-Arms :—

*Tent-pegging.*

1st prize, Lance-Naik Akbar Khan.

*Best-trained Horse.*

1st prize, Lance-Naik Shaik Ahmed Ali.

3rd prize, Dafedar Akbar Khan.

The regiment marched to Poona on the 28th December to take part in a Camp-of-Exercise, and camped near Kalas. Colonel Hogg was appointed Brigadier of the Cavalry Brigade, and Captain Forbes Brigade-Major.

## 1889

The Inspector-General of Cavalry took the inspection of the regiment on the 21st, 22nd, 23rd, 24th, and 25th of January, and stated he would make a favourable report to Army Headquarters.

The regiment returned to Sirur on the 4th February, on the termination of the Camp-of-Exercise.

Lieutenant-Colonel Maitland was appointed to the Intelligence Department, Simla, with effect from the 11th July.

The whole regiment was put through a course of Tent-pegging this year.

The following prizes were taken at the Annual Assault-at-Arms at Poona :—

Lance v. Sword	...	...	1st prize.
Sword v. Sword	...	...	1st "
Lance v. Sword	...	...	2nd "
Best-trained Horse	...	...	2nd, 3rd and 4th prizes.
Best Man-at-Arms	...	...	1st prize.
Section Tent-pegging	...	...	1st "
Obstacle Race	...	...	1st "

The regiment left Sirur on the 4th November to take part in the ceremonies connected with the visit to Poona of His Royal Highness Prince Albert Victor of Wales, returning on the 18th idem.

### 1890

On the 5th February Lieutenant-Colonel Maitland returned from special duty at Simla, and on the 9th a full squadron of 150 Sabres under this officer, with Lieutenants Mure and Gordon attached, proceeded to Bombay to take part in the Harbour Defences Rehearsal, and to form an escort to His Royal Highness the Commander-in-Chief, and afterwards to His Royal Highness Prince Albert Victor of Wales. It rejoined Regimental Headquarters on the 9th April.

The services of Lieutenant-Colonel Maitland were again placed at the disposal of the Government of India from the 27th March.

This year the shooting of the regiment was "very good," with a figure of merit of 117·15, having been beaten by only one native Cavalry regiment in all India, and by less than one point. Five teams competed for the "Wantage" Prize at the Central Rifle Meeting at Poona, and obtained 2nd and 3rd places with 124 and 123 points, the 1st prize having been won with 122 points *plus* Snider allowance of 7 points.

The following distinction was conferred on the regiment :—

WAR OFFICE, PALM MALL, 23rd September, 1890.

The 4th (Prince Albert Victor's Own) Bombay Cavalry (Poona Horse) :  
To be Honorary Colonel, Major His Royal Highness Prince Albert Victor  
Christian Edward, Duke of Clarence and Avondale, K.G., K.P., A.D.C.

Dated, 24th September, 1890.

### 1891

During this year the pay of the rank and file was increased to the following rates :—

Kote Daffedar Major	...	...	...	59 Rupees
Farrier Major	...	...	...	54 "
Daffedar	...	...	...	42 "
Trumpeter	...	...	...	38 "
Naik	...	...	...	37 "
Sowar	...	...	...	31 "

The rates of good-conduct pay were also raised.

In the Annual Course of Musketry the regiment, which was armed with the Martini-Henry carbine, was fourth on the list of all the native Cavalry regiments in India.

## 1892

On the 14th January the whole nation, and especially the Poona Horse, were thrown into mourning by the untimely death, from typhoid fever, of the Honorary Colonel of the regiment and Heir-Presumptive to the Throne of England, His Royal Highness Albert Victor, Duke of Clarence and Avondale, and Earl of Athlone.

The high standard of musketry was maintained, and in this year the regiment headed the list of native Cavalry regiments.

In August the regiment was divided into troops and squadrons according to caste, as far as the existing material would permit.

## 1893

The Annual Course of Musketry was subjected to some modifications in this year, but the regiment again headed the list of native Cavalry.

Kote Daffedar Mahomed Khan was specially selected as the non-commissioned officer to represent the Bombay Cavalry at the opening of the Imperial Institute in London. He had been the man-at-arms in the Bombay Presidency Assault-at-Arms in 1892. He was promoted Jamadar, and admitted to the Order of British India (second class), with the title of Bahadur.

In September a new system of squadron organization was introduced. Squadrons were designated A, B, C; and D. They were each divided into four troops, which were numbered

1, 2, 3, and 4, the existing troops being formed into two linked troops. The strength and composition of the two linked troops was :—

		1st Troop.	2nd Troop.
Native Officers ...	...	1	1
Kote Daffedars ...	...	1	Nil
Daffedars ...	...	2	2
Naiks ...	...	2	3
Farriers ...	...	1	2
Trumpeter ...	...	1	Nil
Sowars ...	...	31	31
Total ...	...	39	39

### 1894

In this year the regiment was second on the list of Cavalry regiments in India in musketry, and was also successful in winning the Poona District Polo Tournament.

### 1895

In March the orders for the reorganization of the Bombay Army were issued from Headquarters. The following was the sanctioned organization of the Poona Horse :—

1 Squadron	...	Western Rajputana Rajputs.
1 "	...	Khaimkhanis.
1 "	...	Sikhs (other than Jat Sikhs).
1 "	...	Punjabis.

By this arrangement men of the following classes, of whom there were a good number serving in the regiment, had to be gradually eliminated, and others of the authorized classes enlisted in their places :—

Hindustani Hindus.  
Hindustani Mahomedans.  
Bombay Presidency Mahomedans.  
Mahrattas.

Such a sweeping change in the organization of the regiment, involving as it did, to all intents and purposes, the raising of a new regiment, threw a heavy burden on the funds. This was especially the case with the Rajput Squadron, as this class, being poor, could not afford to bring any money to help pay for their assamis. A committee of British officers pro-

ceeded, therefore, to Jodhpore to discuss matters with the Prime Minister, Maharajah Sir Pertab Singh. The outcome of their deliberations was the advancing by the Jodhpore Durbar to the Poona Horse a sum amounting to nearly 80,000 rupees, from which was to be defrayed the cost of the Rajput assamis. This extremely generous treatment on the part of the Durbar led to the raising of a second squadron of this class, as it was soon found that it was not possible for a regiment permanently quartered so far from the Punjab to obtain Sikh recruits of the desired stamp. The Sikh Squadron was not raised therefore, and permission of the Government was obtained to substitute a second Rajput Squadron for it. This made a well-balanced organization of two Hindu and two Mahomedan squadrons.

- An attempt was also made to reduce the price of the regimental assamis, which was still 500 rupees, the highest-priced assami in the Indian Army. No practicable scheme could be evolved, however.

The regiment was again second on the musketry list.

## 1896

An uneventful year, chiefly devoted to the reorganization of the regiment, which only succeeded in attaining to the fourth place on the musketry list. The polo team, however, won the Ahmednagar and Poona Tournaments.

## 1897

The previous year was noteworthy for the outbreak of plague in Bombay, which spread to Poona, and in spite of all precautions reached Sirur in this year. At first the outbreak was confined to the town, but in the month of August it assumed epidemic form, and a number of men and followers were attacked. The regiment was forthwith moved into camp at Annapore. Thanks to the unremitting devotion of Surgeon-Captain P. P. Kilkelly (who had just succeeded Surgeon-Lieutenant-Colonel Stewart in medical charge of the regiment), the outbreak amongst the men was stayed; but it continued

to rage in the town, and his work amongst the victims (being the only medical officer in the place) was very heavy.

The regiment entered two teams for the Poona District Polo Tournament, and they were both left in for the final match. This, unfortunately, could not be played off, as the teams had to hurry back to Sirur owing to the outbreak mentioned above.

This year the former crest of the regiment was finally done away with, and a new one introduced :



ORIGINAL CREST.



NEW CREST.

1898

Plague having assumed a most serious form in the city of Poona, the Government of Bombay determined to try the experiment of isolating the town, and as far as possible preventing all movement of the inhabitants from the town to the surrounding districts and *vice versa*.

Owing to the successful manner in which the Sirur outbreak had been dealt with by the regimental authorities, and the experience they had thus gained, the Poona Horse were moved into Poona in January, and were employed for three months on cordon duty round the city. They performed this arduous and harassing duty to the complete satisfaction of the authorities, but the experiment not having the desired effect, the regiment returned to Sirur in March.

In August the regiment won both the Poona Junior and the Poona Open Polo Tournaments.



In November the regiment was moved into camp at Poona, and the following month Lieutenant R. H. Raymond (who had only been appointed Adjutant in the previous May) was killed in a collision while playing in a station game on the Poona polo ground. Deeply regretted by all ranks of the regiment, he was buried with full military honours in the Poona Cemetery the following day. The funeral was attended by His Excellency the Governor of Bombay, the General Officer Commanding the District, and all other officers in the station. The bands of the British regiments at Wanourie and Ghorpuri played the Dead Marches and hymns. The Indian ranks of the Poona Horse lined the route followed by the cortège, and the British officers were pall-bearers.

For some years past considerable difficulty had been found in maintaining the pony transport, for which the regiment had at one time been justly famous. This was directly attributable to the Afghan War of 1879-80. At that time the Deccani pony was probably the finest baggage animal in the country. Strong, hardy, and sure-footed, it had all the good points of the mule, and in addition was cheaper and far less liable to sore back. At the commencement of the war the Army Transport Train was in a lamentable condition, and orders were issued to collect all available ponies in the Deccan and to send them north to the Army in the field. This order was carried out to the full, with the result that the Deccan was practically denuded of ponies, including the vast majority of the brood mares, and as a direct consequence the breed disappeared. Hitherto the regiment had, thanks to its close connection with the Deccanis, been able to get the few "barbardari" remounts that it required, but now these were required in increasing numbers and were not forthcoming. This year, therefore, marked the introduction of mules instead of ponies as regimental transport animals. The Deccan produces few mules, the people having conscientious objections to the breeding of hybrids, so the regiment had to turn to the Punjab for its requirements. This naturally added to the expense, and it was eventually found necessary to start a special "Mule Chanda" to meet the heavy expenditure entailed by the innovation.

## 1899

In the beginning of January the regiment returned to Sirur, and the remainder of the year was uneventful, being marked only by a serious outbreak of anthrax during the hot weather, which necessitated the regiment going into camp for some time. Owing to the failure of the monsoon, and the consequent scarcity of fodder, the regiment was moved back to Poona in November, and encamped at Kalas Ford.

## 1900

This year was one of the most important in the history of the regiment, marking as it did their final separation from Sirur.

In April they returned from Poona, and in August, on the departure of the 3rd Bombay Cavalry to China to take part in the expedition for the relief of Peking, the Poona Horse were ordered to relieve them at Neemuch. At the time this was only expected to be a temporary measure, but the Government of India, in pursuance of their policy of delocalizing all regiments of the Indian Army as far as possible, eventually took this opportunity of placing the regiment on the general roster of Cavalry reliefs. This measure, though generally popular in the corps, and though no doubt for the eventual benefit of it as a fighting machine, resulted in a heavy pecuniary loss. During the seventy-three years that they had been localized the regiment had acquired considerable interests in Sirur and its surroundings. In fact, by a Charter issued by the Government in the fifties, the land lying inside the Sirur Cantonment boundary pillars was handed over to the regiment in perpetuity. The mess-house and polo-ground were also the private property of the corps.

A mass of correspondence took place on the subject of compensation for the loss of all this property, which had shortly before this been valued, for assessment purposes, at approximately three lacs of rupees. The regiment claimed that they were justly entitled to two lacs of rupees, but were prepared to accept less than half "in full settlement."

The case was finally placed before the Commander-in-Chief, Lord Kitchener of Khartoum, for his decision, which was as follows:—

As the Poona Horse, being a silladar regiment, will be given lines to occupy in any station they may eventually be sent to, they have no claim against Government on account of their lines at Sirur, nor for their other property in that station. This decision is final.

A legal authority gave it as his opinion that if the Commanding Officer thought fit to institute a suit against the Secretary of State for India, a court of law would probably disagree with the dictum of the Commander-in-Chief. It is hardly necessary to add that the suit was not instituted.

As a matter of fact the hardship on the regiment was not so great as would appear on the surface. Prior to the year 1895 a large proportion of the native ranks were inhabitants of Sirur, and were the sons and grandsons of those Sowars who, in the first half of the century, had made the name of the Poona Horse what it was, and who had built the lines and had a direct interest in the other property. With the re-organization in 1895, however, this class had to a great extent disappeared, and the men who had taken their place could not legitimately claim a direct interest.

The Depot of the 3rd Bombay Cavalry occupied the lines for a short time, as did the Headquarters of the same regiment on their return from China. Another Cavalry regiment followed them for a short time, but under Lord Kitchener's plan of redistribution of the Army in India the station was finally abandoned, and is now fast falling into ruin and decay.

On the 7th August the regiment marched from Sirur to Ahmednagar, and were railed from there to Neemuch, one squadron proceeding to Nasirabad on detachment.

This year was marked by a terrible famine, which was particularly bad in Central India. A large relief camp was started at Neemuch, and many hundreds of lives were saved by its means. The native ranks afforded considerable assistance in bringing in starving ryots from the surrounding

district. Nevertheless, in spite of everything that could be done, the country round cantonments was strewn with the dead bodies of unfortunates who, too weak to struggle on to the camp, had perished miserably of starvation in the fields. Owing no doubt partially to this, and partially to the abnormal climatic conditions which prevailed owing to the failure of the monsoon, the autumn was most unhealthy, and the regiment suffered to an extraordinary extent from fever—so much so that up to Christmas it was not possible to carry out any training, and great difficulty was even found in getting the horses groomed and fed.

### 1901

In November the regiment was ordered to Mhow to take part in the training of the Division under Major-General Sir Richard Westmacott. Shortly after arrival, however, a severe form of influenza attacked the horses, and practically no work was done the whole of the training season; in fact, the Annual Inspection of the regiment was taken on foot.

This year the colour of the regimental uniform was changed from dark green to dark blue by order of the Government of India, the facings of French grey being retained.

### 1902

By the month of March it was considered that the horses had sufficiently recovered from the influenza epidemic, and the regiment marched back to Neemuch and Nasirabad.

Later on in the year the regiment was detailed to take part in the Imperial Durbar which the Viceroy, Lord Curzon, was organizing at Delhi to celebrate the Coronation of the King-Emperor Edward VII. It was arranged that prior to the Durbar the troops attending should take part in manœuvres on a large scale on the historic battlefields in the vicinity of Delhi.

On the 7th October the regiment started on the 500-mile march to Delhi, and at half-way Major F. W. G. Wadeson, of the 5th Bombay Cavalry, who had served in the regiment as Squadron Officer and Squadron Commander, took over tem-

porary command in place of the permanent Commandant, Lieutenant-Colonel A. W. Forbes, who, having fractured his leg, had been invalided to England.

On the 17th November the regiment reached Safdar Jang, south of Delhi, where the Southern Army were concentrating for the manœuvres. From here the polo team proceeded to Meerut to play in the Meerut Autumn Tournament, which they won, defeating the 15th Hussars in the finals after a most exciting match.

The Poona Horse were brigaded with the 15th Hussars and the 9th Bengal Lancers, and on the 27th inst. moved out through Badli to take part in the manœuvres, which were on a larger scale than any that had hitherto been held in India. These lasted until the 20th December, and during them the regiment received favourable notice from the new Commander-in-Chief, Lord Kitchener, on account of their good horsemanship. On conclusion of the manœuvres the regiment returned to the Durbar camp at Badli, and from then to the end of the month were busily engaged in rehearsals, etc., for the forthcoming pageant.

## 1903

On the 1st January the historic Durbar of 1903 took place, and the regiment was detailed to line the portion of the road leading immediately into the amphitheatre. The British and Indian officers were thus enabled, after the Royalties and Viceroy had passed, to dismount and take part in the magnificent spectacle which then took place.

During the subsequent days the regiment took a prominent part in the All India Tent-pegging Competition and the Assault-at-Arms. In the latter they gave a special display of horsemanship, which attracted much attention. The greatest interest, however, was concentrated on the Polo Tournament, which the Poona Horse eventually won, thus establishing their claim to be, for this year at any rate, the premier polo-playing regiment of the Indian Army. The cup, which was presented by Lord Curzon, was a magnificent piece of plate, and forms one of the most treasured possessions in the

mess. The team consisted of Captains P. P. Kilkelly, W. F. Newnham, W. G. Cooper, and Daffedar Imtiaz Ali. Though the latter was probably the finest polo-player in the Indian Army at this time, a fourth British officer would have been included in the team, but a series of accidents left no alternative to filling the fourth place from the Indian ranks.

On the 8th January the regiment took part in the great review under Lord Kitchener, at which Lord Curzon inspected the 40,000 troops assembled for the Durbar.

On the 9th January the regiment was honoured by a visit from His Royal Highness the Duke of Connaught. It was some years since when, as Commander-in-Chief of the Bombay Army, it had served under his command, but he still remembered some old friends amongst the native ranks. On conclusion of his visit he addressed the following remarks to the Commanding Officer:—

I am exceedingly pleased to meet the Poona Horse again, and congratulate you all on your victory in the Polo Tournament. On yesterday's review parade the horses looked admirable, and, in my opinion, the Poona Horse marched past better than any other regiment there. Please remember me to all ranks of the regiment.

On the 11th January the regiment started on the march back to Neemuch, arriving on the 20th February. When passing through Jeypur the Regimental Sports were held. All the chief inhabitants attended, including the Maharajah, who came under an escort of a squadron of the regiment, with its native officers. His Highness was so pleased that, on conclusion of the sports, he presented a cup to be competed for by the best man-at-arms annually, and also a piece of plate to the Officers' Mess.

In this year the designation of the Indian Staff Corps was abolished, officers belonging to that corps being designated for the future officers of the "Indian Army."

In March, Major F. W. G. Wadson reverted to his own regiment, to the regret of all ranks of the Poona Horse.

In August plague again attacked the regiment, but the outbreak was not severe, and was overcome by moving out into camp.

In October the designation was changed from 4th Bombay Cavalry (Prince Albert Victor's Own) to 34th (Prince Albert Victor's Own) Poona Horse.

In June of this year the regiment was re-armed with the new magazine Lee-Enfield rifle, Mark 1, commonly known as the "long rifle."

## 1904

The experiment of enlisting Rajputs from Jodhpore having proved such a success in the regiment, the Government of India decided that the 26th Light Cavalry, who were being reorganized, should raise a squadron of the same class. Orders were issued that the Poona Horse should provide a nucleus squadron for them. Two Indian officers and a proportion of non-commissioned officers and men were therefore transferred to the 26th Cavalry, and it is satisfactory to note that the squadron thus raised proved an excellent one.

In the annual reliefs the Poona Horse were detailed to move to Loralai; but it was found impossible, owing to the scarcity of water and supplies *en route*, to carry out the move. They were ordered to proceed to Aurangabad instead—a matter of regret to most of the regiment, who were now anxious to sever their connection with the Deccan and the small chances of active service that it offered.

At the end of December they started on the march to their new station.

In this year the Bengal Cavalry system of regimental accounts was introduced, in supersession of the regimental system that had hitherto existed.

In June Major-General G. C. Hogg, C.B., who had served the whole of his regimental service in the Poona Horse, was appointed Colonel of the regiment.

Prior to the departure from Neemuch the Paterson Equipment for carrying the rifle was issued. It never became popular, however, owing to the ease with which the rifle became detached when moving at a fast pace.

## 1905.

The regiment arrived at Aurangabad at the end of January, having marched via Rutlam, Mhow, Asirgarh, and Ajanta. The station was an unpopular one from the first—amongst the native ranks owing to the hopelessly dilapidated condition of the lines, and amongst the British officers to the fact that, owing to the paucity of houses, it was found necessary to join the station mess.

Plague again followed the regiment to this new station, but the outbreak did not assume serious proportions.

This year a new light hunting bridle, with a half-moon "Ramsey-Pelham" bit and shackle, replaced the old-pattern heavy bridle, headstall, bit, and headrope, whereby a considerable saving in weight was effected. The seats of the saddles were also lengthened, and the old-fashioned high cantle and burrs removed.

In October the Commander-in-Chief, Lord Kitchener, inspected the station, and expressed himself very pleased with the personnel, horses, and turn-out of the regiment, all of which he examined in detail.

## 1906

The report on the regiment by the Inspector-General of Cavalry was in eulogistic terms, it being described as "a splendid one, and well above the average." This was all the more satisfactory as Major-General Douglas Haig, C.B., expected an exceedingly high standard from the Indian Cavalry.

The training season was marred by an unfortunate outbreak of cholera in D Squadron, contracted while in camp on the Godavary, and several men were lost.

The regimental polo team won the Mahableskawar and the Poona Junior Tournaments.

The Punjabi Mahomedan Squadron (C) was mobilized and held in readiness to proceed at a moment's notice to Persia; but the situation in that country showing signs of improvement, the order was subsequently cancelled.



## 1907

The regiment marched to Poona in January to take part in the Divisional Manœuvres under Sir Archibald Hunter, which Lord Kitchener also attended. On conclusion of the manœuvres the regiment marched to Bombay to act as escort to His Majesty the Amir of Afghanistan, and remained there a month, encamped on the Kennedy Sea face, returning to Aurangabad via Ahmednagar.

Later on, the regiment again won the Poona Junior Polo Tournament.

In this year the Reserve of the Indian Cavalry was instituted.

## 1908

In the middle of January the regiment arrived at Ahmednagar to take part in the training of the brigade. At the end of the month, however, anthrax appeared amongst the horses, and the outbreak spreading rapidly, the regiment was ordered to return to Aurangabad.

For some two years past the regiment had been losing horses from some obscure complaint which had completely defeated the veterinary authorities, though in the regiment it had all along been diagnosed as anthrax. As a rule, only one or two animals had been affected at a time. Even in this case the veterinary officers were sceptical of its being anthrax until four men contracted the disease from the horses, and the microbe was discovered by the regimental medical officer. The outbreak gradually assumed epidemic proportions, and one squadron lost more than half its horses. A veterinary officer was especially deputed to deal with the outbreak, and general inoculation was resorted to with beneficial results, and by degrees the disease was got under, but not without the loss of many valuable animals.

The regiment won the Poona Junior Polo Tournament for the third year in succession.

In this year the designation of "Naik" was abolished in the Cavalry, and that of "Lance-Daffedar" substituted for it;

also the appointment of Kote-Daffedar-Major was abolished, and the establishment of Daffedars was raised from 32 to 40, and that of Lance-Daffedars decreased from 40 to 32.

### 1909

On the Proclamation Parade, on the 1st January, an Indian Army Order was promulgated announcing an increase of pay to all ranks, both British and Indian, and the grant of free firewood to the latter for the future. For a long time past it had been recognized that the pay of the Sōwar compared most unfavourably with the amount he might earn as a civilian. This fact had as yet not seriously affected the recruiting for the Indian Army, but a note of warning had been struck, and the Government of India, in this matter, had shown statesmanlike foresight in making this concession. The secret had been kept in a marvellous manner, and few outside the small circle of Staff officers concerned had any inkling of what form the announcement was to take. The period immediately prior to this had been marked in India by a wave of unrest, which had swept like a flood from one end of the country to the other. Many attempts had doubtless been made by unscrupulous agitators to implicate the Indian Army, but, to its everlasting honour, it remained as a whole absolutely loyal to the Emperor under whose colours it served; and it was felt, though not announced, that the concessions referred to above were a sign that the Government recognized the trial that the Indian ranks had been subjected to, and appreciated the manner in which they had emerged therefrom.

In January the regiment marched to Ahmednagar to take part in the training of the brigade, returning to Aurangabad the following month.

This year it was found necessary to raise the subscription to the Chanda Fund from two rupees eight annas per mensem to three rupees. Ever since the regiment had left Sirur the funds had been going downhill. This was due to a variety of causes, the chief, doubtless, being the very large increase in the price of remounts. Up to the year 1898 the Poona Horse

were mounted on Arabs costing from 350 to 375 rupees. For reasons which even yet are not fully understood the price of the raw Arab began to rise rapidly, until it had soon reached a figure far beyond what a silladar regiment could afford to give. It became necessary, therefore, to purchase horses of other classes. The Australian was the only animal that the regiment could obtain in sufficient numbers and of the necessary quality. The price of these was 400 rupees and upwards, and this threw a great and increasing burden on the Chanda Fund. Those fortunate regiments who were in possession of horse-farms were able to mount themselves on country-breds, but that market was practically closed to a regiment situated as the Poona Horse was. Some years previously an opportunity of obtaining a grant of land as a regimental horse-farm had been let slip—a mistake which was doomed to cost the regiment dear in the future, as it is difficult to see how the silladar system is to be maintained in those corps without them. At the time the Poona Horse were delocalized they were probably one of the richest regiments amongst the Indian Cavalry, so that they will, in the ordinary course, be one of the last to feel the pinch; but it was recognized this year that with the example of other less fortunate corps before them, if bankruptcy were to be averted, a further call must be made on the men's pockets, this taking the form of an eight-anna increase in the Chanda subscription.

In the Poona Assault-at-Arms the regiment swept the board with eleven 1st prizes, seven 2nd, and five 3rd, and the best Man-at-Arms.

On August the 24th Lieutenant H. A. Studdy was killed at polo while playing for the regiment in the Junior Tournament at Poona, the regiment losing a very popular young officer, and one who promised to be one of the best polo-players we have ever had. He was buried at Poona.

## 1910

For some years past the Poona Horse had been finding guards for the British Consulates in Persia. These usually

consisted of one or two non-commissioned officers and half a dozen Sowars. This duty was very popular with the men, as they were well treated and received handsome allowances. Their removal from all military discipline, however, was not beneficial from a regimental point of view, and a certain amount of feeling having arisen between the men and the Consuls under whom they were serving, it was decided to cease employing them in this way.

In January the regiment moved to Ahmednagar to take part in the training of the brigade, and while there received orders to return at once to Aurangabad and mobilize the two Mahomedan squadrons for service in Somaliland. Since the withdrawal from the hinterland after the expedition in 1903-4, the Mullah and his tribe of Dolbahantas had been continuously harassing the "friendly" tribes, and at this time was actually threatening Berbera, the only place in Somaliland over which the British flag now flew.

At this time it looked as if it would be necessary to put regular troops into the country to support the local levies. During the next two months, however, things quieted down, and finally the regiment was warned that these squadrons would not be required.

This year the regiment won the Bombay Open Polo Tournament.

In July the regiment was rearmed with the new magazine Lee-Enfield rifle, Mark 3, commonly known as the "short rifle"; and the following month the rifle-bucket replaced the Paterson Equipment, the withdrawal of the latter being regretted by none.

## 1911

This year the regiment was detailed in the annual reliefs to move to Secunderabad; but later on the order was cancelled owing to the scarcity of water on the route, and also because of the fact that plague was known to be rife in several of the districts through which it would have been necessary to pass.

In the month of January a Cavalry concentration took place

in the vicinity of Jalna, in which the regiment took part. These manœuvres were chiefly remarkable for the fact that an aeroplane was used at them for the first time in India.

At the Poona Assault-at-Arms the regiment gained six 1st prizes, three 2nd, and the best Man-at-Arms. The last-named, Ressaïdar Hamir Singh, was selected to represent the Poona Division at the Durbar Military Tournament, which was held at Delhi in December in the presence of His Majesty the King-Emperor. At this tournament the Ressaïdar won the 2nd prize for the best Indian Officer-at-Arms (mounted).

## 1912

In the early part of the year the following announcement appeared in the *Gazette of India* :

The Governor-General in Council is pleased to sanction the admission of Jemedar Sultan Mahomed Khan, 34th Poona Horse, to the third class of the Civil Division of the Indian Order of Merit, for conspicuous bravery displayed by him at Chaoli, in the Jhelum district of the Punjab, on the 18th August, 1911, in capturing two members of a gang of outlaws, who had brutally murdered his brother and his two servants, and had mutilated his brother's body, and looted and burnt his house. In the fight, which occurred when the capture was made, one of the attacking party was wounded, and twelve bullets lodged in a wall, in close proximity to Jemedar Sultan Mahomed Khan. Of the two murderers, one was taken alive, while the other was shot dead by the Jemedar himself.

This Jemedar was a Punjabi Mahomedan, belonging to C Squadron, and he had utilized his furlough as described above.

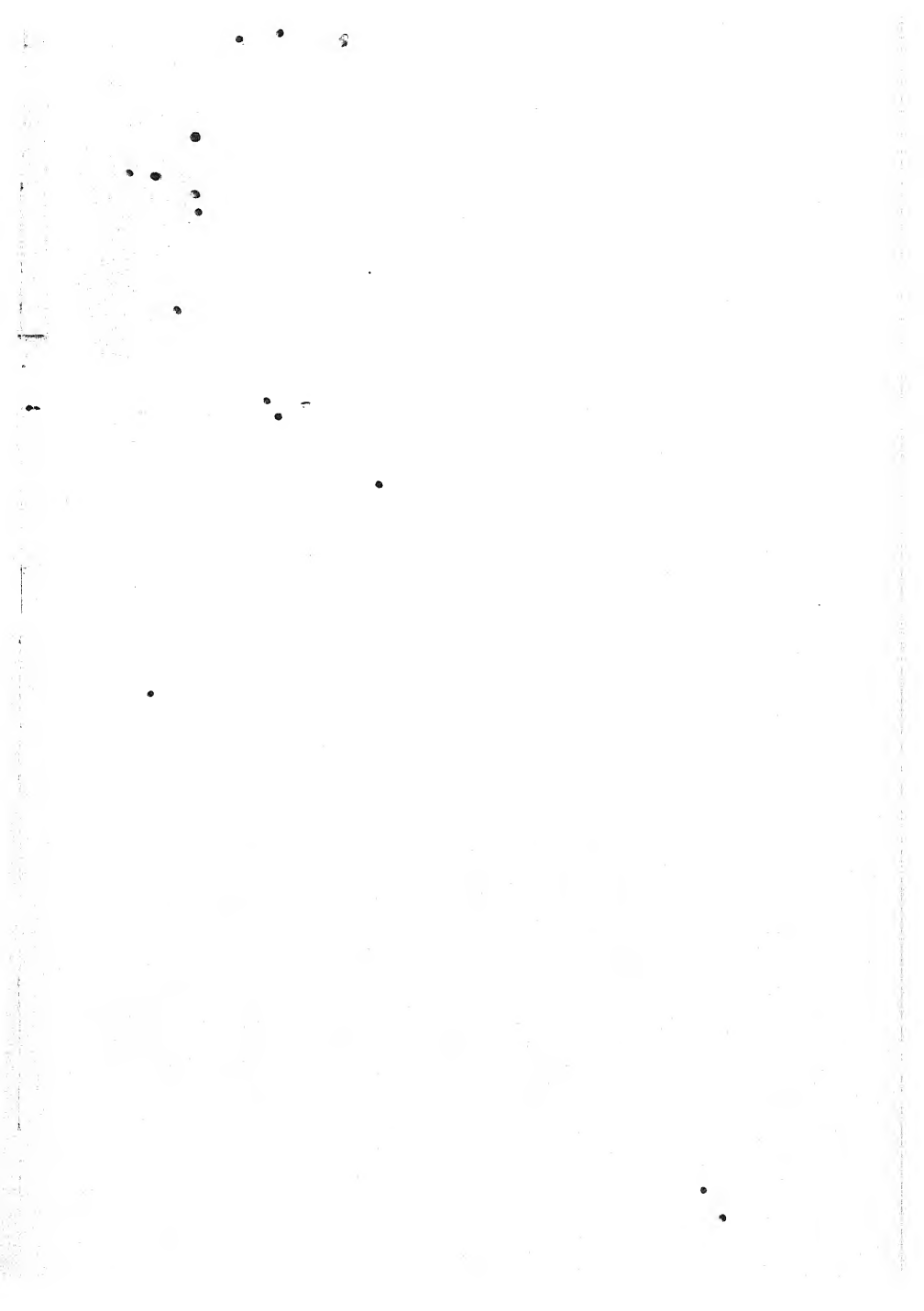
The Poona Horse were again detailed in the annual reliefs to move to Secunderabad, and to their joy left Aurangabad in October, arriving at Secunderabad in December. Owing to water difficulties it was found necessary to rail them a portion of the way. Some distance outside Secunderabad they met the remainder of their new Cavalry Brigade, and in conjunction with them carried out brigade training.

The brigade was commanded by Brigadier-General F. W. Wadeson, a former officer of the Poona Horse, and the regiment was under the command of Lieutenant-Colonel O.

Swanston, D.S.O., who had earlier in the year been appointed to the command from the 14th Lancers, and who was a grandson of one of the officers who had helped raise the Poona Horse in 1817.

This year the regiment was equipped with new saddles, supplied by Messrs. Cooper Allen, of Cawnpore.

In December His Majesty the King-Emperor was pleased to appoint His Highness Maharajah Sir Pertab Singh, Bahadur, G.C.S.I., G.C.V.O., K.C.B., Regent of Jodhpore, Honorary Aide-de-Camp to His Majesty, to be Honorary Colonel of the regiment, thus crowning the long and intimate association that had existed between His Highness and the Poona Horse.





MAJOR-GENERAL G. C. HOGG, C.B.

COLONEL, POONA HORSE



## OFFICERS APPOINTED COLONEL OF THE POONA HORSE

Major-General G. C. Hogg, C.B. Was appointed Adjutant of the regiment in 1863. He proceeded with it to Afghanistan in January, 1880, and was subsequently appointed Brigade-Major, Cavalry Brigade, Kandahar Field Force. He accompanied General Burrows' force to the Helmund, was present on the occasion of the mutiny of the Wallee's troops, and at the subsequent action on the banks of the river, which led to the defeat of the enemy and the capture of their guns and baggage (mentioned in despatches). Was present at the skirmish at Khushki-nakh-khood on the 22nd July, and at the Battle of Maiwand and the subsequent retreat on Kandahar (mentioned in despatches). Served through the siege of Kandahar (mentioned in despatches); also at the sortie on Khairabad, and the sortie and subsequent action of Deh Khoja, in which his horse was shot (medal). He served in the regiment through all the successive grades, and succeeded to the command in April, 1883, and held it for seven years. He was appointed Quartermaster-General of the Bombay Army in 1889. Was subsequently appointed to command the Deesa District, and finally the Poona Division. Was appointed first Colonel of the regiment in 1904.

## HONORARY COLONELS OF THE POONA HORSE

1. His Royal Highness Albert Victor, Duke of Clarence and Avondale, and Earl of Athlone, was the first Honorary Colonel of the Poona Horse, being appointed in the year 1890. The regiment was named "Prince Albert Victor's Own" in his honour. The distinction of being commanded by the Heir Presumptive to the British Throne was only enjoyed by the regiment for the brief space of two years, as after that short interval the Prince died in England from typhoid fever, to the deep regret of the whole nation.

2. Major-General His Highness Maharajah Sir Pertab Singh, Bahadur of Idar, G.C.S.I., G.C.V.O., K.C.B., A.D.C. to His Majesty, Regent of Jodhpore. Was formerly Prime Minister of Jodhpore during the reign of his elder brother, Maharajah Sir Jaswant Singh. Formed one of the Kabul Mission in 1878. Was an Extra A.D.C. to General Elles in the Mohmand Expedition, 1897, and to General Sir William Lockhart in the Tirah Expedition, 1898 (wounded, and mentioned in despatches). In 1900 he went to China with the expeditionary force, in command of the Jodhpore Imperial Service troops. Was made Ruling Chief of Idar State, in Guzerat, in 1902, but later on abdicated in favour of his son. Was appointed Lieutenant-Colonel and subsequently Major-General in the British Army. Commandant of the Imperial Cadet Corps, and appointed Honorary Colonel of the Poona Horse in 1912.



MAJOR-GENERAL HIS HIGHNESS MAHARAJA SIR PERTAB SINGH,  
BAHADUR, OF IDAR, REGENT OF JODHPUR, G.C.S.I.,  
G.C.V.O., K.C.B., &c.

FIRST INDIAN HONORARY COLONEL OF THE POONA HORSE  
Appointed 1912



## COMMANDANTS OF THE REGIMENT

THE following is the list of Commandants of the regiment in order since the regiment was first raised to the present time :—

1. Cunningham, J., Lieutenant-Colonel, 17th Bombay Infantry. Was the first officer to command the Poona Auxiliary Horse. He was appointed on the formation of the regiment in 1817, on an allowance of 3,000 rupees per mensem exclusive of contingents. This was reduced in 1820 to 1,000 rupees. He vacated the command in 1822 on proceeding on sick leave to Europe, and did not return again to India. He was appointed regimental Colonel of the 17th Native Infantry in 1824, was promoted Major-General in 1837, and died about 1841.

2. Spiller, W., Captain, 5th Bombay Native Infantry. Joined the Poona Auxiliary Horse on its formation in 1817, as Commandant of a Division. In 1822, on Lieutenant-Colonel Cunningham's departure, he assumed command of the regiment, and was appointed Commandant in April, 1826. He saw much service with the regiment, and was several times thanked by Government, by whom he was held in high estimation. He was noted as being a shrewd judge of native character. He was especially mentioned in Bombay General Order No. 14 of December, 1817, for his services in command of a detachment of the regiment at the Battle of Poona, and also in the *London Gazette* of April and June, 1818. For his gallantry in blowing open the gate of Pritchelghur he received mention in the *London Gazette* of the 6th November, 1818, and in G.G.O. of the 14th November of the same year. He was further mentioned in General Orders of the 18th December,

1824, for his services with a detachment of the regiment at the capture of Kittoor. In 1830 he was tried by general court-martial "for having suffered himself to be insulted by Mr. P. Bacon, of the Civil Service." He was found guilty, and sentenced to be dismissed the service. The sentence was remitted, however, by the Commander-in-Chief, "on account of the gallantry so frequently displayed by Captain Spiller" (Bombay General Order of the 8th April, 1830). He resigned command of the regiment the same year, and proceeded on leave to Europe. On his return to India he commanded the 5th and 26th Regiments of Native Infantry successively, and was later on appointed Commandant of the Fortress of Asirghur, and subsequently Brigadier in command of the Aden Field Force. He was promoted regimental Colonel, 3rd Native Infantry, in 1849, when he proceeded to Europe.

3. Mansfield, R., Captain, 5th Madras Cavalry. Joined the regiment on its formation as Commandant of a Division, which appointment he held for thirteen years. He was an officer of high repute, and reorganized the Guzerat Irregular Horse. On Captain Spiller vacating the command in 1830, he was appointed to command the corps, but without any increased allowance. On promotion to Major, in 1834, he reverted to the Madras Establishment. On his vacating the command in 1834 the Governor of Bombay in Council "expressed the satisfaction which his conduct has afforded Government for the long period of eighteen years during which he has been attached to the Irregular Horse, and for the last four years in which he has exercised the chief command of that body." He died at Mahableshtar in 1836.

4. Stack, M., Captain, 3rd Bombay Light Cavalry. Was attached to the Poona Auxiliary Horse in 1830, on a staff allowance of 300 rupees. In 1833 he was appointed to act in command for Captain Mansfield, absent on medical certificate. In 1834 he was appointed Commandant, and continued in command till 1836, when he left the regiment to take charge of the Government Stud Farm at Alligaum. In 1839 he was given the duty of superintending the details of the regiment not on field service in Scinde, and of raising the "New Levy."

He rose to the rank of General, was appointed Colonel of the 3rd Light Cavalry, and created a Knight Commander of the Bath. He died in 1879.

5. Cunningham, E. D., Captain, 2nd Bombay Light Cavalry. Appointed Commandant 1836, promoted Major in 1838, and Lieutenant-Colonel the following year. He commanded the Poona Auxiliary Horse at the siege and capture of Ghuznee, and was mentioned in Sir J. Keen's despatches. He left to assume command of his own regiment in 1839. He held the appointment of Brigadier Commanding at Aden, and rose to the rank of General, and was appointed regimental Colonel 1st Lancers. He died in 1861.

6. Erskine, G. Keith, Captain, 1st Bombay Lancers. Was attached to the Auxiliary Horse as a Cornet in 1831, and succeeded to the command of the regiment in 1839. He served with the regiment in Afghanistan. In 1848, according to the rules then in force, on the 1st Lancers being ordered on service, he rejoined that corps, and died of small-pox whilst serving with them at the siege of Multan, on the 12th January, 1849.

7. Tapp, T., Brevet-Major, 1st Bombay Fusiliers. Was appointed to command the Poona Auxiliary Horse in 1849. He was promoted Brevet-Lieutenant-Colonel in 1856, and proceeded the same year in command of the regiment to Persia, and on the 13th January of 1857 was appointed to command the Cavalry Brigade of the 1st Division, Persian Expeditionary Force. He was present at the actions of Reshire, Khushab, and Bushire (medal and clasp), and commanded a flying column in the Indian Mutiny (medal). For his services in Persia and during the Mutiny he was created a Companion of the Bath, and appointed A.D.C. to Her Majesty Queen Victoria. Colonel Tapp resigned command of the regiment in 1860 on proceeding to Europe on account of ill-health. In 1861 he volunteered for the 103rd Fusiliers, and in 1863 was appointed Brigadier-General. In 1867 he was given command of the Northern Division of the Bombay Army. On the expiration of this appointment he retired to England.

8. Westropp, R. M., Colonel, 14th Bombay Native Infantry. Joined the Poona Auxiliary Horse as Adjutant in 1847, and was subsequently appointed Second-in-Command. He left the regiment for Staff employ in 1854, and on Colonel Tapp's retirement, in 1860, was appointed to command. He was promoted Major in 1862, Lieutenant-Colonel in 1869, and Colonel by Brevet in 1869. He retired with a bonus and the honorary rank of Major-General in 1876.

9. Simpson, E. H., Brevet-Major, 2nd Bombay Light Cavalry. Was appointed to the command of the 5th Regiment, Poona Silladar Cavalry, on its formation in 1861. He did not live, however, to take up the command.

10. Moore, R. B., Captain, 3rd Bombay Light Cavalry. Was appointed to command the 5th Regiment, Poona Silladar Cavalry, in 1861, on the death of Major Simpson. On the disbandment of that corps in September, 1862, Captain Moore was appointed to command the 2nd Scinde Horse. He remained, however, in command of the Poona Horse during Major Westropp's absence on furlough, until November, 1864. He retired in 1874 with the honorary rank of Major-General.

11. Oldfield, F. G., Captain, 3rd Bombay Light Cavalry. Commanded the 4th Poona Horse in 1861 on the departure of Captain Westropp on furlough, and on the amalgamation of the two regiments in 1862 was transferred to the Scinde Horse.

12. Blair, J., Colonel, V.C., 2nd Bombay Light Cavalry. Officiated for eight months in 1874 as Commandant, on Colonel Westropp proceeding on furlough. In January, 1875, he was appointed Commandant of the 1st Lancers, and in 1882 Brigadier-General Commanding and Political Resident at Aden.

13. La Touche, C. D., Colonel, 14th Bombay Native Infantry. Joined the Poona Horse as Adjutant in 1855, and was appointed Second-in-Command in 1868. He commanded the regiment from 1876 to 1883. He served with the regiment in the Persian War, 1856 to 1857. He was present with them at the landing at Hallilah Bay, the attack on Reshire, capture of Bushire, and destruction of the enemy's magazines at Chakota. Was thanked in Field Force Orders for his services,



and was present at Burazjooon and the Battle of Khooshab (medal and clasp). Served with the Satpura Field Force 1857-58, and was present at the action fought with the insurgent chiefs and rebels at Dabba Bowrie on the 11th April, 1858 (Mutiny medal). Served under General Sir Hugh Rose in 1859-60 on the frontier of Khandesh, and in Nimar on the occasion of the passage of Tantia Topee's army through the latter province. Commanded the Poona Horse in the Afghan War 1880-81, and was present during the defence of Kandahar (mentioned in despatches). He commanded a sortie of all arms on Khairabad and the sortie of Deh Khoja (mentioned in despatches), and was present at the Battle of Kandahar (medal and clasp).

14. Hogg, G. C., Major-General, C.B. Was appointed Adjutant of the regiment in 1863. He proceeded with it to Afghanistan in January, 1880, and was subsequently appointed Brigade-Major, Cavalry Brigade, Kandahar Field Force. He accompanied General Burrows' force to the Helmund, was present on the occasion of the mutiny of the Wallee's troops, and at the subsequent action on the banks of the river, which led to the defeat of the enemy and the capture of their guns and baggage (mentioned in despatches). He was present at the skirmish at Khushki-nakh-khood on the 22nd July, and at the battle of Maiwand, and the subsequent retreat on Kandahar (mentioned in despatches). Served through the siege of Kandahar (mentioned in despatches); also at the sortie on Khairabad, and the sortie and action of Deh Khoja, in which his horse was shot (medal). He served in the regiment through all the successive grades, and succeeded to the command in April, 1883, and held it for seven years. He was appointed Quartermaster-General of the Bombay Army in 1889. Was afterwards appointed to command the Deesa District, and finally the Poona Division. Was made first Colonel of the regiment in 1904. Under his command the regiment established a high reputation amongst the Cavalry corps in India.

15. Currie, A., Colonel, Bombay Cavalry. Was appointed Second-in-Command in April, 1883, while Brigade-Major at

Deesa. Joined the regiment in November, 1884, and succeeded to the command on the 29th April, 1890, which he held till the 9th December, 1892.

16. Maitland, P. J., Colonel, Bombay Staff Corps. Was appointed Squadron Commander in 1882, on the disbandment of the 3rd Scinde Horse; Second-in-Command in April, 1890; and Commandant on the 10th December, 1892. He was at this time seconded for service on the Staff at Army Headquarters, and did not take up the command of the regiment. He was subsequently appointed Secretary in the Army Department, and later on commanded at Ader, retiring as a Major-General. He served on the Afghan Boundary Commission in 1884.

17. Anderson, J. W., Major, Bombay Staff Corps. Was appointed Squadron Officer in 1875, and held the Adjutancy from 1876 to 1880. He succeeded to the command of the regiment on the 10th December, 1892, and died on board ship in Aden Harbour on the 18th May, 1893, on his way home on leave on medical certificate. He served with the Southern Afghanistan Field Force in 1880 as Adjutant of the Poona Horse, until his promotion to Captain. On Major Hogg's departure he was appointed Brigade-Major of the Cavalry Brigade, which appointment he held until the brigade was broken up. He proceeded in command of a squadron of the regiment, with General Brook, to assist in covering the retreat from Maiwand (mentioned in despatches). Was present during the defence of Kandahar, and at the affair at Khairabad, the sortie of Deh Khoja, and (as Brigade-Major) at the Battle of Kandahar and pursuit of the enemy up the Argandeb Valley (medal and clasp).

18. Thomas, H. R. Dacres, Colonel, Bombay Staff Corps. Was appointed officiating Squadron Commander on the 1st June, 1885, and was transferred to the 1st Bombay Lancers in December, 1889. Was appointed to the command of the Poona Horse the 2nd June, 1893, which he held until the 10th February, 1901, on which date he retired.

19. Forbes, A. W., Colonel, Bombay Staff Corps. Was appointed Squadron Officer in December, 1882, and Adjutant

in 1885. He commanded the regiment from the 10th February, 1901, to the 10th February, 1908. He served in the Afghan War, 1879-80 (medal). After vacating the Adjutancy of the regiment he was appointed A.D.C. to the Governor of Bombay, and later on Inspecting Officer, Kathiawar Imperial Service Troops, returning to the regiment as Second-in-Command. Though offered a Staff appointment by the Commander-in-Chief (Lord Kitchener), by whom he was held in high estimation, he preferred to retire on completion of his command in 1908. During his tenor of command the Poona Horse reached a very high state of efficiency.

20. Ducat, C. M., Colonel, Bombay Staff Corps. Was appointed Squadron Officer in February, 1885, and Adjutant in 1890. He held command of the regiment from the 10th February, 1908, to the 28th April, 1912. Passed the Staff College, Camberley. He served with the 1st Bombay Lancers in the Burmah Expedition, 1886-87 (medal with two clasps); also in the China Expedition, 1900, as Special Service Officer (medal with clasp, mention in despatches, and Brevet of Lieutenant-Colonel). Was appointed Military Attaché, Pekin, in 1902. On vacating the command of the regiment he was appointed General Staff Officer (1st Grade), Meerut Division, and retired in February, 1913.

21. Swanston, C. O., Lieutenant-Colonel, D.S.O. Was appointed Second-in-Command from the 14th Bengal Lancers on the 12th March, 1912, while serving on the General Staff, and succeeded to the command on the 28th April of the same year. He served on the Staff in the Tirah campaign, 1897-98 (mention in despatches, and medal with two clasps); in the Waziristan Expedition, 1901-02 (mention in despatches, clasp, and D.S.O.); in the Darwesh Khel Expedition, 1902 (mention in despatches); also on the Headquarters Staff in the Somaliland Campaign, 1903-04 (medal with two clasps, and mention in despatches). Was placed on the list of officers qualified for Staff employ in consequence of distinguished service on the Staff in the field, and subsequently passed through the Staff College, Camberley. He is a grandson of "Corygorm" Swanston, mentioned in these records (1817).

## OFFICERS OF THE REGIMENT, OTHER THAN COMMANDANTS

THE following is, as far as can be ascertained, a complete list of officers who have served in, or been appointed to, the regiment other than those contained in the list of Commandants :—

Abbott, F., Captain, Bombay Staff Corps. Officiating Third Squadron Commander from 10th March, 1884, to 25th January, 1885, when he was appointed Staff Officer at Ahmednagar.

Alderson, B. H., Lieutenant, 116th Infantry. Appointed Squadron Officer 4th December, 1904. Served for some time as Adjutant of the Governor of Bombay's Bodyguard.

Bailie, Thomas M., Lieutenant. Commander of a Division, 1820. Died 1828.

Barras, C. P., Lieutenant, 29th Bombay Native Infantry. Adjutant 1853-55, when he resigned. He retired from the service as Colonel in 1876.

Beale, H. Y., Lieutenant, 12th Bombay Native Infantry. Adjutant 1851-53.

Birch, V., Lieutenant, 9th Bombay Native Infantry. Doing Duty Officer 1863, and left the same year on being appointed Adjutant 9th Native Infantry. Later Colonel and Commandant 9th Bombay Infantry.

Black, Claud H. G., Second-Lieutenant, Unattached List. Appointed 22nd April, 1901. Passed Staff College, Quetta, 1913.

Bradford, E. W. C., Lieutenant, Indian Medical Service. Medical charge from June, 1906, to December, 1907.

Brough, J., Lieutenant, The European Regiment. Commandant of a Division 1817 until his death in 1820.

Browne, P. A., Lieutenant, Bombay Infantry, General List. Paid Doing Duty Officer 1863, and transferred to the 2nd Baluchis the same year.

Bruce, L. S., Assistant-Surgeon, Bombay Army. In medical charge 5th Poona Horse 1861-62. Later Deputy-Surgeon-General, Bombay Army.

Buist, D. S., Major, 29th Lancers. Appointed Second-in-Command 15th August, 1908. Retired on account of ill-health December, 1911.

Burlton, R. H., Second-Lieutenant, Unattached List. Appointed 7th December, 1911.

Campbell, W. E. D., Second-Lieutenant, The Black Watch. Appointed 12th September, 1909.

Cates, W. E., Assistant-Surgeon, Bombay Army. Served with the regiment in the Mutiny. In medical charge 1866. Later Deputy-Surgeon-General, Bombay Army.

Clarke, W., Lieutenant, Madras Army. In charge of a Division from 1817-22.

Clarke, W. H., Lieutenant, 2nd Bombay Native Infantry. Commanded temporarily the Poona Auxiliary Horse in Upper Scinde in 1839, and was subsequently appointed Second-in-Command of the Scinde Rissala.

Coates, T., Superintending Surgeon, Auxiliary Force, 1817-19.

Collier, H. C., Lieutenant, 21st Bombay Native Infantry. Adjutant 1858. Afterwards joined the 21st Hussars.

Colston, C. K., Assistant-Surgeon, Bombay Army. In medical charge 1866-67.

Cooper, W. G., Lieutenant, 3rd Bombay Light Infantry. Appointed Squadron Officer 16th October, 1891; Second-in-Command in 1912. Served in the China Campaign, 1900, with the 33rd Light Cavalry (medal).

Cotton, H. J., Lieutenant, Unattached List. Appointed 25th August, 1899. Transferred to the 6th Bombay Cavalry April, 1900.

Crozier, R. J., Brevet-Captain, 26th Bombay Native Infantry. Temporarily in charge of the Poona Auxiliary Horse in Scinde in 1839, and was relieved on account of ill-health.

Davie, J. H. M., Captain, Royal Scots. Appointed Squadron Officer 13th January, 1907; Squadron Commander 1908; Administrative Staff, Poona Division, 1910. Served in the South African War 1902 (Queen's medal with two clasps).

Duxbury, C. D., Lieutenant, Madras Infantry. Appointed 23rd July, 1901. Transferred to the Supply and Transport Corps August, 1905.

Edmunds, T., Lieutenant, 3rd Bombay Native Infantry. Commanded Gujerat Division (*ex officio*) 1836-38.

Elphinston, W. G., Second-Lieutenant, Unattached List. Appointed 2nd November, 1906.

Ellwood, B. P., Second-Lieutenant, 2nd Battalion King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry. Appointed 18th November, 1894. Transferred to the 1st Bombay Lancers 1896.

Erskine, C. M., Lieutenant, 103rd Fusiliers. Squadron Officer 1866; Adjutant, Left Wing, 1867-69; Squadron Commander 1878; Major 1880; retired 18th May, 1885. Commanded the Aden Troop at the destruction of the Fort of Al Hurky in 1879 by H.M.S. *Ready*, and the surrender to the Aden Troop of the fratricide Sultan Hussain, a Foodhli chief. Served with the Southern Afghan Field Force 1880-81. Commanded 215 Sabres, Poona Horse, on the march with Sir R. Phayre, K.C.B. (mentioned in despatches; medal).

Erskine, G. E., Lieutenant, 1st Bombay Lancers. Attached 1861; Adjutant 1862-63. Later Colonel and Commissioner in Oude.

Faulkner, A. S., Surgeon. Officiating medical charge 1882.

Ferguson, J. F., Lieutenant, 26th Native Infantry. Attached 1860.

Forbes, H. E., Captain, 1st Bombay Lancers. Second-in-Command, Poona Horse, 1861. Transferred to command 4th Scinde Horse the same year.

Forster, H. J., Lieutenant, Bombay Staff Corps. Squadron Officer 4th October, 1883, to 25th October, 1885. Transferred to 7th Bombay Cavalry.

Fraser, G. N., Lieutenant, Bombay Staff Corps. Appointed Squadron Officer April, 1890; subsequently became Adjutant and Squadron Commander in succession. Served on the

Punjab Frontier, 1895 (medal) ; Tirah Expedition, 1897-98 (medal) ; South African War (medal). Died in St. George's Hospital, Bombay, from the effects of an operation, on 19th June, 1906.

Fraser, T. G., Captain, 1st Fusiliers. Second-in-Command 1840-48, when he joined the Commissariat Department.

Gilroy, P. K., Lieutenant, Indian Medical Service. Medical charge July, 1912, to November, 1912.

Gordon, A., Surgeon. Appointed in 1817. In medical charge until his death in 1820.

Gordon, W. G., Surgeon, Bombay Army. Medical charge 1871-76. Died 1877.

Gordon, McL. J., Lieutenant, Bombay Staff Corps. Appointed Squadron Officer February, 1888 ; subsequently made Adjutant. Appointed Commandant Aden Troop 1898, and died in England in 1901 from the effects of an operation.

Graham, D. C., Lieutenant, 19th Bombay Native Infantry. Commanded Bhil Corps, and the Division of the Auxiliary Horse in Khandesh 1836-39.

Graham, M., Lieutenant, 12th Bombay Native Infantry. Squadron Officer 1863, and died at Sirur in 1864.

Grantham, C. F., Captain, 6th Bombay Cavalry. Appointed 4th August, 1893. Transferred to 3rd Bombay Cavalry October, 1896, and retired after commanding that regiment.

Gray, E. St. C., Lieutenant, Royal Field Artillery. Appointed 15th September, 1903 ; Adjutant 1907. Served in the South African War 1900-01 (Queen's medal and three clasps).

Grimshaw, R. W. W., Lieutenant, 18th Royal Irish Regiment. Appointed 8th December, 1900 ; Adjutant from 1904 to 1907. Subsequently served on the Staff of the Cavalry School at Sauger on its formation.

Havelock, W. K. H., Captain, 4th Light Dragoons. Commandant of a Division 1825-30. Commanded a Division of the Poona Auxiliary Horse in Cutch, and was killed at Ramnagar while commanding the 14th Light Dragoons. In December, 1827, Captain Havelock was placed under arrest by the Officer Commanding the Cutch Subsidiary Force, and was tried by

court-martial on several charges—for having struck Lieutenant G. Candy, of the 3rd Bombay Native Infantry, and for having challenged him to fight a duel. He was found guilty, and sentenced to be cashiered. The sentence was confirmed by the Commander-in-Chief, and Captain Havelock was sent home. The authorities at home, however, remitted the punishment, and his name was restored to the Army List, and he returned to India to the 4th Light Dragoons, but did not rejoin the Poona Horse. At the time he was commanding the detachment in Cutch he had served at Waterloo (medal and Knighthood of the Hanoverian Order). He previously served in the Peninsular War, and was present at the battles of Busaco, Salamanca, Vittoria, Nivelle, Nive, and Toulouse. He originally joined the 43rd Foot, exchanging to the 4th Light Dragoons (in which he rose to the rank of Major), and, as stated above, eventually succeeded to the command of the 14th Light Dragoons.

Hay, C., Lieutenant, General List, Infantry. Squadron Officer, 1863. Transferred to the 2nd Scinde Horse the same year.

Hay, H., Lieutenant, 17th Foot. Squadron Officer 1872-78. Later Major Bombay Staff Corps, and Second-in-Command 1st Bombay Lancers.

Henderson, A., Assistant-Surgeon, Bombay Army. In medical charge of a Division 1817-20.

Heyland, A. K., Second-Lieutenant, Unattached List. Appointed 30th January, 1895. Transferred to the Supply and Transport Corps in 1900.

Hildebrand, H. A., Lieutenant, 1st Battalion Leicestershire Regiment. Appointed 12th December, 1906. Served in the South African War 1902 (Queen's medal and two clasps).

Hislop, A. F., Second-Lieutenant, 2nd Battalion Royal Scots. Appointed 31st July, 1894. Transferred to the 5th Bombay Cavalry February, 1896.

Hogg, H., Lieutenant, Bombay Staff Corps. Squadron Officer 1871-72, when he was transferred to the 3rd Scinde Horse, and subsequently to the 3rd Cavalry.

Hudson, H., Assistant-Surgeon, Poona Irregular Horse, 1845-46.



Hudson, C. T., Surgeon, Bombay Army. Officiated in medical charge in 1889.

Hunter, Francis, Lieutenant, 1st Madras Light Cavalry. Assistant-Commandant of a Division 1817-1820. Whilst travelling to take up his appointment with the regiment he was taken prisoner at Woorlee, near Poona, by the Peishwas' troops. On the surrender of Weesotah he was set at liberty, after having suffered a rigid confinement of five months in the Fort of Cangoree, in the Concan. Was mentioned for gallant conduct in G.O.C.C. 11th January, 1818, and in the *London Gazettes* of 18th April and 16th July, 1818.

Hutchinson, F. H. G., Surgeon-Lieutenant. In medical charge (officiating) from 1898-99.

Jackson, C. F. Cornet, 2nd Regiment Light Cavalry. Temporarily attached to the detachment in Cutch in 1834.

Jameson, C., Assistant-Surgeon 1817-20, when he entered the service of the Nizam.

Kaye, J. H., Lieutenant. Assistant-Commandant of a Division 1818. Died at Mhow 6th December, 1819.

Kilkelly, P. P., Surgeon-Captain, Indian Medical Service. Appointed to medical charge from the 28th Pioneers on the 31st March, 1897, and transferred to the Political Department on the 16th March, 1903. Served in the Soudan Expedition, 1896 (medal and star); British East African Expedition, 1898 (medal and clasp, and Brilliant Star of Zanzibar); China Expedition, 1900 (medal and clasp). Later on established a great reputation as a specialist, in charge of the Ophthalmic Hospital, Bombay. He was probably the best all-round man the regiment has ever had, and did much to establish the Polo Club on a sound basis.

Knowles, George, Lieutenant, 7th Madras Infantry. Appointed 14th October, 1897. Transferred to the 1st Bengal Lancers in June, 1898, and subsequently to the 2nd Lancers (Gardner's Horse).

Lewis, J., Captain. Brigade-Major and Paymaster 1817. Died 1819.

Loch, F. A., Captain and Brevet-Major, 1st Bombay Lancers. Officiating Second-in-Command, Poona Horse, 1862. Later Major-General and C.B., Bombay Staff Corps.

Loch, W. C., Lieutenant, 1st Bombay Lancers. Second-in-Command, Poona Auxiliary Horse, 1839-47, when he was transferred to command the Gujerat Horse. Died 1861.

Lucas, G. W. C., Second-Lieutenant, Unattached List. Adjutant and Commandant, Governor of Bombay's Bodyguard, 1904-12. Squadron Commander 1910.

Lunham, J. L., Captain, Indian Medical Service. Appointed 2nd January, 1908. Served in the Mohmand Expedition, 1908 (medal and clasp).

Lyde, M. T., Lieutenant, Middlesex Regiment. Attached as Probationer 1881.

Macdonald, M. M., Captain, 22nd Bombay Native Infantry. Acting Commandant with detachment in Scinde, 1848-49.

Macgregor, R. G., Second-Lieutenant, Unattached List. Appointed 10th January, 1910.

Macnaghten, A. W., Captain, 2nd Bombay Cavalry. Squadron Commander 1864-67, when he exchanged to the 2nd Cavalry.

MacRury, C. W., Surgeon, Bombay Army. In medical charge in 1876-77. Later appointed Sanitary Commissioner.

Malet, A., Lieutenant. Assistant-Commandant of a Division 1822.

Malcolmson, J. P., Major, Bombay Staff Corps. Officiating Squadron Commander 1871-73, when he was appointed to command 3rd Scinde Horse. Was later promoted Colonel and created a Companion of the Bath.

Marriott, E. F., Lieutenant, 34th Foot. Attached 1880; Squadron Officer 1882. Transferred to the Police June, 1883. Served in the Afghan War 1879-81 (medal).

McConaghy, J. G., Second-Lieutenant, Unattached List. Appointed 3rd November, 1899. Transferred to the 23rd Cavalry December, 1901.

McLeod, Alexander, Captain and Brevet-Major, 8th Madras Light Cavalry. Commandant of Division 1817-21, when he retired from the service, receiving thanks for his services from the Bombay Government.

Miller, J. R., Assistant-Surgeon, Bombay Army. In medical charge from 1847-55. Later retired as Deputy-Surgeon-General.

Minchin, H. D., Lieutenant, Bombay Staff Corps. Squadron Officer 1878; Adjutant 1880-84. Transferred to 7th Bombay Cavalry October, 1885, and afterwards to 1st Lancers. Served in the Afghan War 1879-80, and had his horse shot under him at Deh Khoja (medal and clasp).

Molloy, G. M., Lieutenant, 2nd Battalion Royal Irish Rifles. Appointed Squadron Officer 28th October, 1897; Adjutant from 1899-1904; Squadron Commander 1910. Passed Staff College, Quetta. Served on the Staff, Somaliland Campaign, 1903-04 (medal and clasp), and on the Administrative and General Staff, Derajat Brigade, 1908-12.

Moore, R. B., Captain, 3rd Cavalry. Commanded the regiment temporarily, 1862.

Moore, C. A., Lieutenant, 2nd Bombay Cavalry. Squadron Commander 1873. Transferred in the same year to the 2nd Cavalry, which he eventually commanded.

Morin, John, Captain, 1st Bombay Native Infantry. Temporarily in command of the 2nd Division of the Poona Auxiliary Horse in 1822.

Morris, G. S. Attached as a Probationer from the East Yorks in 1886. Transferred to the Hyderabad Contingent 1887.

Mure, W. C. Lockhart-, Lieutenant, Bombay Staff Corps. Joined October, 1887; retired as a Major, 1905. Served in the Soudan Campaign with the Durham Light Infantry, 1885-86 (medal and bronze star). Died 3rd March, 1913.

Murphy, W. O'S., Lieutenant, Indian Medical Service. Officiating medical charge May, 1901, to August, 1902. Transferred to the 25th Rifles.

Newnham, W. F., Lieutenant, 6th Bombay Cavalry. Appointed Squadron Officer 1st February, 1891; retired as Major and Squadron Commander, March, 1912.

Norbury, P. F., Lieutenant, 18th Royal Irish Regiment. Appointed 24th June, 1901. Commandant, Aden Troop, 1910.

Ottley, W. J., Captain, 2nd Bombay Cavalry. Officiated as Commandant for six months in 1843.

Outram, J., Captain, 23rd Bombay Native Infantry. Assistant Political Agent in Khandesh. Ex officio in charge

of the Division, Poona Horse, in that Collectorate, from 1830-36. He was offered the command of the Auxiliary Horse in 1836, but declined, as he was proceeding to Europe on medical certificate. He died in 1863 as a Lieutenant-General and G.C.B. Was created a Baronet in 1858. Known as the "Bayard of India."

Owen, C. A., Cornet, Bombay Cavalry. Attached 1862-64. Retired as a Major.

Owen, H. H. D., Lieutenant, 2nd Bombay Cavalry. Joined 1861. Squadron Commander 1865, till his death in 1875.

Owen, R. B., Assistant-Surgeon 1831-33.

de Pass, F. A., Second Lieutenant, Royal Field Artillery. Appointed 1st August, 1909.

Paterson, R. H. O'D., Lieutenant, Royal Field Artillery. Appointed Squadron Officer 7th April, 1906. Served in the South African War, 1900-01 (Queen's medal and two clasps).

Peat, W. S., Lieutenant, Bombay Cavalry. Squadron Officer 1863, and transferred the same year to the 2nd Cavalry. Later Lieutenant-Colonel and Cantonment Magistrate.

Phayre, R., Lieutenant, 25th Bombay Native Infantry. Commanded a party of the Auxiliary Horse at the action of Kotra, 1839. Later General Sir R. Phayre, K.C.B.

Philips, J., Lieutenant, 33rd Foot. Squadron Officer 1864. Squadron Commander 1875-78. Transferred to 1st Scinde Horse as Second-in-Command.

Phillips, H., Lieutenant-Colonel, Bombay Staff Corps. Transferred as Second-in-Command from Squadron Commander, 2nd Bombay Cavalry, in April, 1880. Retired in 1882. Served with the Persian Expeditionary Force, in 1857, at the bombardment and capture of the forts of Mohamerah (medal and clasp). Also served with the force under Brigadier Coghlan, which captured and destroyed the fort of Sheik Othman, in the vicinity of Aden, in 1858. Served with the Southern Afghanistan Field Force, 1880-81, as Second-in-Command, Poona Horse. Defence of Kandahar (slightly wounded), affair at Khairabad, and Battle of Kandahar (medal and clasp).

Pottinger, Eldred, Colonel, C.B. Attached to the Poona

Horse in Cutch, in 1835. In 1836 he proceeded, with 100 Sowars, to Jattrra at Morwarrah, for the preservation of order. Was permitted to travel with two Sowars to the countries to the west of the Indus. He was a well-known traveller, and was at Herat during the siege, and also at Kabul, Kandahar, etc. (*vide Asiatic Journal* for March, 1839). Was frequently mentioned in the London and Indian *Gazettes*.

Pym, J. A., Captain, 2nd Bombay Cavalry. Squadron Officer 1862. Transferred the same year to the 3rd Cavalry.

Radford, H. W. Assistant-Surgeon 1817.

Raymond, R. H., Lieutenant, 21st Bombay Infantry. Appointed 14th November, 1894. Adjutant, May, 1898. Killed while playing polo at Poona, on the 8th December, 1898.

Raymond, M. C., Lieutenant, Northamptonshire Regiment. Appointed 27th August, 1905. Adjutant 1911. (Brother of above.)

Rind, A., Lieutenant. Assistant Commandant of Division 1818. Commandant of Division 1820. Died 1821.

\*Rind, C., Assistant-Surgeon, Poona Auxiliary Horse, 1820. Retired 1824.

Reid, A. T., Captain, Bombay Staff Corps. Officiating Squadron Commander, 1865-67. Retired as Lieutenant-Colonel.

Roberts, H. G., Captain. Commandant of Division, 1819. Died 1827.

Robinson, H. G., Lieutenant, 7th Bombay Native Infantry. 1850-51. Retired as Major-General, 1872.

Rogers, A. M., Assistant-Surgeon, Bombay Army. In medical charge 1856-58. Served with the regiment in Persia.

Rowcroft, C. H., Lieutenant, Royal Artillery. Appointed 17th October, 1896. Transferred to the 9th Bengal Cavalry, December, 1898.

Sandwith, H. M. B., Lieutenant, 3rd Bombay Native Infantry. Adjutant, 1858-60, when he rejoined his regiment proceeding on service, and died in China, 1861.

Sherard, R. W., Lieutenant, East Yorkshire Regiment. Appointed as Probationer, June, 1882. Transferred to the

Scinde Horse, March, 1883. Served with the 15th Foot in Afghanistan, 1879-80.

Sherriff, J., Captain, Madras Army. Commandant 3rd Division 1818. Died 1821.

Simpson, D., Assistant-Surgeon, Bombay Army. In medical charge, 1867-71. Retired as Surgeon-Major, 1875.

Simpson, W. J., Lieutenant, Indian Medical Service. Appointed to medical charge 1st January, 1909.

Skinner, P. K., Lieutenant, 9th Bombay Native Infantry. Attached 1835-44. Commanded a detachment of the regiment in Mahee Kanta, and Edur districts in the Scinde Campaign. Afterwards Judge Advocate-General, Bombay Army, and died as a Lieutenant-General, 1876.

Smith, G., Lieutenant, 2nd Bombay Cavalry. Second-in-Command 1854-59. Retired from the Army as Captain in 1863. Served with the regiment in the Indian Mutiny (medal).

Smith, G. M., Lieutenant, 2nd Madras Cavalry. Assistant Commandant of Division 1818. Died 1819.

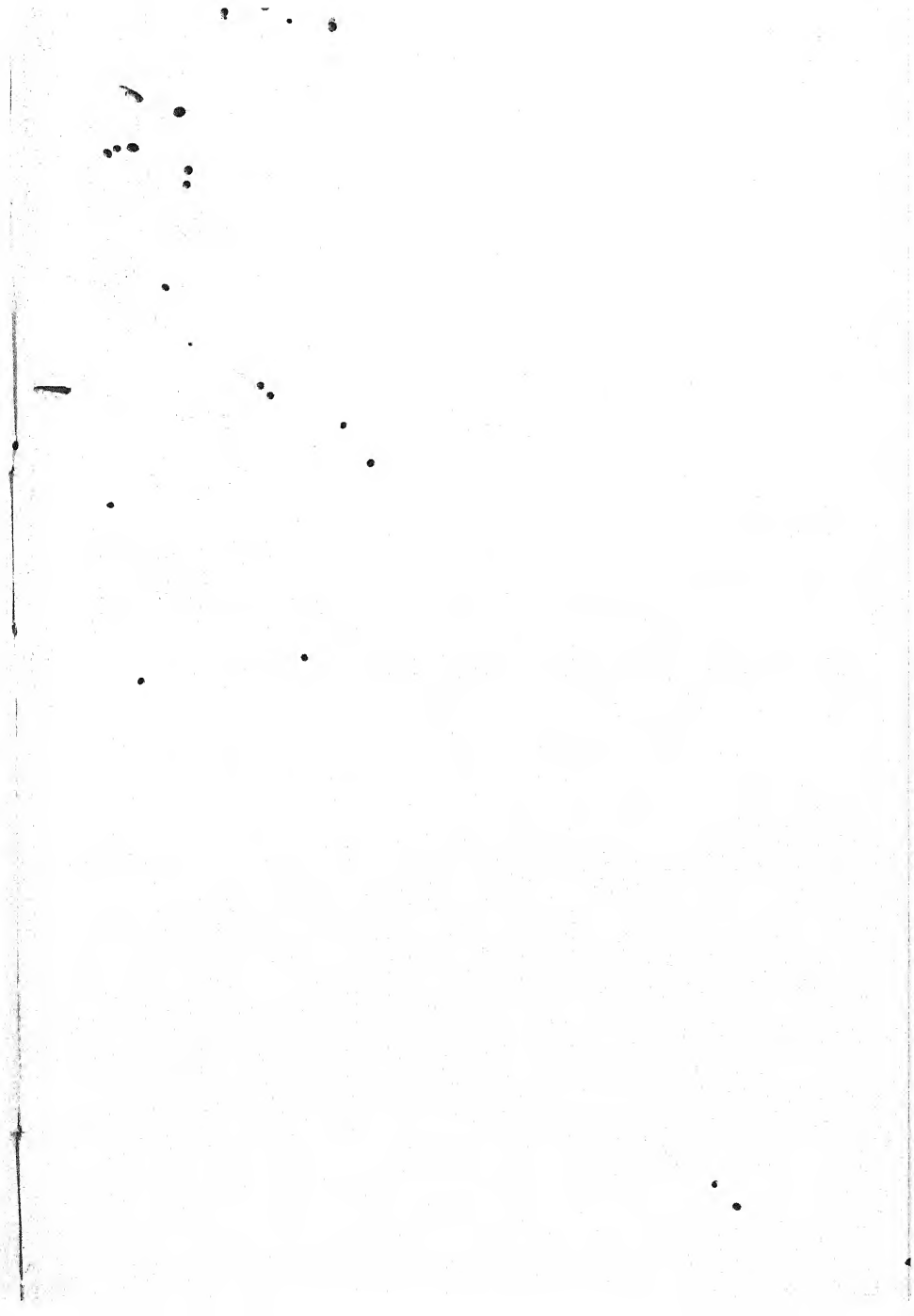
Spens, A. T., Lieutenant, 3rd Bombay Cavalry. Adjutant 5th Poona Horse 1861-62. Retired as Lieutenant-Colonel 1881.

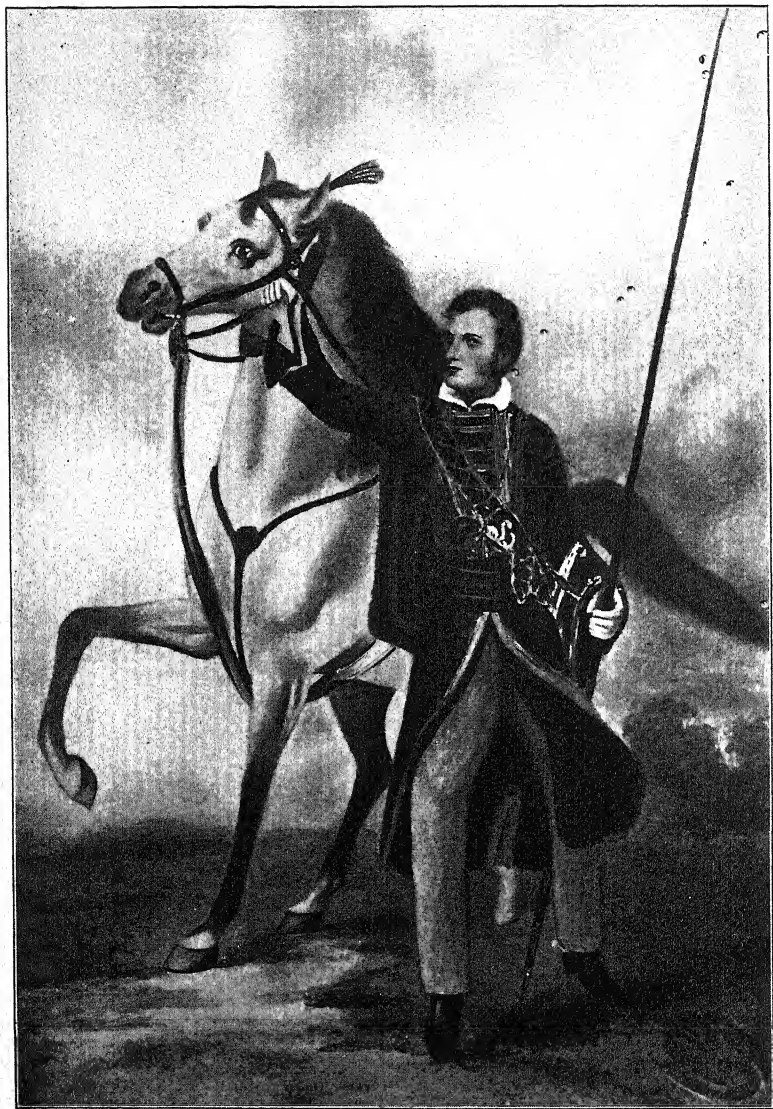
Stephens, F., Lieutenant, 1st Bombay Lancers. Squadron Commander 1861. Retired without joining the corps.

Stevens, M. W., Major. Officiating Second-in-Command, May, 1883, to November, 1884. Transferred to 3rd Bombay Cavalry.

Stevenson, R. G. T., Captain, 2nd Bombay Cavalry. Attached 1861. Exchanged to the 2nd Cavalry the same year. Appointed Second Squadron Officer, Poona Horse, 1867. Second-in-Command 1876. Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel 1880. Died at Quetta while on service with the regiment, 1880.

Stewart, A. K., Surgeon-Lieutenant-Colonel, Bombay Army. In medical charge of the regiment from 1877-97. Served in the Afghan War, 1880. Defence of Kandahar, affair at Khairabad, sortie against Deh Khoja (twice slightly





"CORIGAUM" SWANSTON

The above is reproduced from a painting in the Officers' Mess.



wounded), and the battle of the 1st September (medal and clasp). He was the principal originator of polo in the Poona Horse.

Stopford, W. H. J., Captain, 3rd Cavalry. Officiating 2nd Squadron Subaltern, 1874.

Street, A. W. F., Surgeon. Officiating medical charge, 1882.

Suddy, H. A., Lieutenant, Unattached List. Appointed 19th September, 1906. Killed while playing polo at Poona, on the 24th August, 1909.

Swanston, C., Lieutenant, 12th Madras Native Infantry. Commandant of Division 1817-24. Commonly known as "Corygorm" Swanston. One of the officers chiefly instrumental in raising the regiment, with which he saw much active service in the Deccan, during which he was wounded three times, and on two occasions had his horse killed under him. His services were acknowledged by the British Government, and he was offered a commission in the Royal Staff Corps by the Duke of York, who strongly commended him to the notice of the Honourable East India Company. His services were recognized by the Court of Directors of the H.E.I.C., three times by the Governor-General in India, once by the Government of Bombay, and twice by the Commander-in-Chief, Deccan Army. On vacating the command of a division in the Poona Horse, in 1824, he was appointed Paymaster at Travancore, which appointment he held until his retirement.

Sykes, W. H. T., Captain, 3rd Bombay Cavalry. Appointed Squadron Commander in 1864, and left the regiment in the same year.

Tait, Joshua, Captain, 6th Bombay Native Infantry. Commanded a portion of the regiment in the Scinde Campaign from February, 1842, to July, 1843. (Mentioned in despatches, created a C.B., and promoted Brevet-Major.)

Thompson, J. P., Lieutenant, Unattached List. Appointed 21st December, 1902. Transferred to the 35th Scinde Horse, March, 1904.

Tinley, G. F. L., Lieutenant and Squadron Officer, 1st Bom-

bay Lancers. Commanded the depot at Sirur in 1880-81, during the Afghan Campaign.

Tragett, R., Lieutenant, 26th Bombay Native Infantry. Attached 1858. Acting Adjutant 1859, Adjutant 1861, and died the same year.

Wadeson, F. W. G., Lieutenant, King's Own Borderers. Appointed Officiating Squadron Officer 1882. Transferred to the 7th Bombay Cavalry 1884. Appointed Squadron Commander, Poona Horse, 1892. Commandant, Aden Troop, 1893-98. Transferred to the 5th Bombay Cavalry 1901. Commanded the Poona Horse temporarily during the Delhi Durbar, 1902-03. Later commanded the 35th Scinde Horse, and in 1912 was appointed to command the Secunderabad Cavalry Brigade.

Ward, W., Captain, 15th Bombay Native Infantry. Commanded the Cutch Levy 1834, and remained attached until 1839.

Warner, W. W., Second-Lieutenant, 2nd Royal Warwickshire Regiment. Attached as probationer, 4th May, 1887, to 26th February, 1888.

Waters, G., Surgeon, Bombay Army. In medical charge 1876-77. Later Surgeon-Major.

Watts, J. C., Lieutenant, Bombay Staff Corps. Squadron Officer 1864, and transferred to the Southern Mahratta Horse the same year. Retired as Colonel.

Woolcombe, J. D., Lieutenant, Bombay Artillery. Second-in-Command 1848, resigned 1850. Became a Brigadier-General, and died 1875.

Whately, W., Sub-Lieutenant, 33rd Foot. Squadron Officer 1877. Transferred to the Scinde Horse 1878.

Williams, W. E. R., Captain, Indian Medical Service. Medical charge from February, 1912, to July, 1912.

Yorstoun, M. E. Carthew-, Captain, Bombay Staff Corps. Appointed Squadron Officer, June, 1885. Retired as Second-in-Command and Lieutenant-Colonel on 27th March, 1908. Served in the Zulu Campaign 1879 (medal and clasp). Soudan Campaign, 1896 (medal and Khedive's Star). Tirah Expedition, 1897-98 (medal and two clasps). South African

War, 1900, in command of the New Zealand Hotchkiss Battery (medal and four clasps).

Young, H. P., Major, Bombay Staff Corps. Appointed Squadron Officer 1878. Commanded the depot 1880. Squadron Commander, June, 1885. Served in the Afghan War, 1879; in the transport train. Transferred to the 1st Bombay Lancers 1888.

# APPENDIX A

## PRESENTATIONS TO THE OFFICERS' MESS

Article.	Date of Presentation.	Presented by—	Inscription.	Remarks.
Regimental photograph album	1878	Colonel R. M. Westropp	Presented to the Officers of the Poona Horse, by Colonel R. M. Westropp, Commandant of the regiment, 1878	
Twelve silver beer-mugs	1880	Lieutenant J. W. Anderson	On promotion to Captain	
	1884	Major A. Currie	On promotion to Lieutenant-Colonel	
	1888	Lieutenant C. M. Ducat	On appointment	
	1888	Surgeon G. K. Stewart	On promotion to Surgeon-Major	
	1888	Lieutenant A. W. Forbes	On promotion to Captain	
	1888	Captain J. W. Anderson	On promotion to Major	
	1889	Lieutenant W. C. Lockhart-Mure	On appointment	
	1889	Lieutenant McL. J. Gordon	On appointment	
	1890	Lieutenant M. C. Carthew-Yorston	On promotion to Captain	
	1890	Lieutenant M. G. Fraser	On appointment	
	1891	Lieutenant W. F. Newham	On appointment	
	1892	Lieutenant W. G. Cooper	On appointment	

Silver ewer ...	1890	Colonel G. C. Hogg, C.B.	Presented to the Officers' Mess, Poona Horse, by Colonel G. C. Hogg, on the expiry of his tenure of command, after 27 years service in the regiment	On the front is engraved a pig-sticking scene; on the back a steeple-chasing scene.
Squadron shield ...	1893	Mrs. Anderson, "In memoriam"	Presented to the Poona Horse in memory of Major J. W. Anderson, who died at Aden on May 18th, 1893 This shield is competed for annually in the squadrons of the regiment at musketry, skill at arms, heads and posts, and polo.	It is surrounded with small silver plates, bearing the designation of the winning squadron in each year.
Equestrian statuette (the famous racehorse "Ormonde," with Fred Archer up)	1893	The Officers of the regiment, "In memoriam"	Presented to the Officers' Mess, Poona Horse, in affectionate remembrance of Major J. W. Anderson, by his brother officers. He joined the regiment 3rd June, 1875, was appointed Commandant 9th December, 1892, and died, deeply regretted by all ranks, 18th May, 1893	Only two of these statuettes were made; the second is in the possession of the Duke of Westminster.

Article.	Date of Presentation.	Presented by—	Inscription.	Remarks.
Silver loving-cup	1895	J. R. Lockhart - Mure, Esq.	Presented to the Officers' Mess, Poona Horse, by J. R. Lockhart-Mure, Esq. A polo-pony challenge cup, to be run for annually on its own terms	Presented on the occasion of his visit to his brother, Captain W. C. Lockhart - Mure, and the regiment, in 1895.
Kutch-work silver ewer	1895	Lieutenant-Colonel H. R. Dacres Thomas	—	On appointment to the Command of the regiment.
Koregaum monument	1897	Colonel A. K. Stewart, I.M.S.	Presented to the Mess, Poona Horse, by Colonel A. K. Stewart, I.M.S., on retiring, March 31st, 1897, after twenty years' service with the corps.	A large silver model of the monument erected at Koregaum, in commemoration of the battle there on January 1st, 1818, in which the regiment played such a conspicuous part.
Visitors' book ...	1898	Lieutenant G. M. Molloy	Presented by Lieutenant G. M. Molloy. Sirur, October, 1898	On first appointment to the regiment.
Cigar-lighter ...	1899	Captain T. G. Geddes	The Poona Horse, from Captain T. G. Geddes, D.A.A.G., Royal Artillery, October, 1899	Presented on the occasion of his visit to Sirur, in 1899.

Silver inkstand ...	1899	Major F. W. G. Wadeson	Presented to Captain F. W. G. Wadeson, 4th Bombay Cavalry (Poona Horse), by the polo-players of the 1st Batt. Royal Welch Fusiliers, Aden, 1895-97. Captain Wadeson, from the Officers 61st Regiment, in remembrance of * good times at Khor Maksar, 1894.	Contains : 5 medals, "India," 1857-58. 1 medal with clasp, "Persia." 1 medal (Persian). 9 medals, "Afghanistan," 1878-79-80. 5 medals, "Afghanistan," 1878-79-80, with clasp "Kandahar." 1 medal, long service. 1 medal, Delhi Durbar, 1903. 1 medal with two clasps, "Burmah," 1885-87; "Burmah," 1887-89. 1 medal "India," 1895, with two clasps, "Tirah," 1897-98; "Punjab Frontier," 1897-98. 1 Star of the Order of British India.
Cigarette-box ...	1899	Major F. W. G. Wadeson		
Case of twenty-six war medals	1900	Lieutenant G. M. Molloy (on appointment as Adjutant)	Poona Horse medals, collected and presented to the Officers' Mess by Lieutenant G. M. Molloy. Sirur, 1900	

Article.	Date of Presentation.	Presented by—	Inscription.	Remarks.
Six menu stands, made from medals gained by men of the regiment	1900	Lieutenant G. M. Molloy, on promotion	Presented by Lieutenant G. M. Molloy	As follows : 1 medal, "Ghuznee," 1839. 1 medal, Meance, Hyderabad, 1842. 1 medal, "Persia," 1856. 1 medal, "Afghanistan," 1878-79-80, with clasp, "Kandahar." 1 medal, "Afghanistan," 1878-79-80. 1 medal, "India," 1857-58 (Mutiny). On the lid is the Star of the Order of Merit presented to Daffedar Ghulam Hussein for his gallantry on the occasion of the capture of the regimental standard, Kooshab, 1856.
Silver snuff-box ...	1900	Lieutenant G. M. Molloy, on promotion	Presented to the Officers' Mess, Poona Horse, by Lieutenant G. M. Molloy	Surmounted by a silver hand inscribed " <i>Quis separat?</i> "
Silver table-bell ...	1901	Major T. F. Hume, Lieutenant J. C. MacSwiney, 2nd Lieutenant L. J. Conyn, of the Connaught Rangers	To the Officers of the Poona Horse, from Major T. F. Hume, Lieutenant J. C. MacSwiney, 2nd Lieutenant L. J. Conyn, of the Det. 2nd Batt the Connaught Rangers. Nimach, 1900-01.	



Set of eight Queen Anne salt cellars	1901	Colonel A. W. Forbes	—	On appointment to Command of the regiment, including two genuine Damascus blades.
Thirty-eight Indian swords; three daggers	1901	Lieutenant - Colonel J. Manners-Smith, C.I.E., V.C.	—	
Two Masai hunting-knives; three Masai spears; one Masai shield	1901	Major P. P. Kilkelly, I.M.S.		
Two coloured prints of the racehorses "Sceptre" and "Pretty Polly"	1901	Lieutenant P. F. Norbury		Presented to the Officers, Poona Horse, by Lieutenant P. F. Norbury, on appointment to the regiment.
Stationery cabinet and blotter	1902	Lieutenant R. W. W. Grimshaw		Presented by Lieutenant R. W. W. Grimshaw, on appointment, March 20th, 1902.
Seascope in oils, "On the Goodwin Sands" ...	1902	Captain G. M. Molloy		Presented by Captain G. M. Molloy
Silver cup	1903	Honorary Members of the Mess at the 1903 Delhi Durbar		To the Officers, Poona Horse, as a memento of the Delhi Durbar, from G. F. Grantham, C. M. Cartwright, F. L. Vincent, A. J. Wogan Browne, J. L. Alexander, M. H. Anderson.

Article.	Date of Presentation.	Presented by—	Inscription.	Remarks.
Bronze equestrian statuette	1903	H.H. the Maharaja of Jeypur	Presented to the Officers, Poona Horse, by H.H. the Maharaja of Jeypur, 1903	In commemoration of the visit of the regiment to Jeypur, en route to Neemuch, after the Delhi Durbar.
Snuff mull ...	1903	The Officers, Seaforth Highlanders	From the Officers, 1st Batt. Seaforth Highlanders	Has the Seaforth Highlanders and Poona Horse crests in silver on the front.
Silver grenade cigar-lighter	1904	Major N. C. MacLachlan and Lieutenant P. F. G. Norbury	To the Officers' Mess, Poona Horse, from Major N. C. MacLachlan, 1st Seaforth Highlanders, and Lieutenant P. F. G. Norbury, Poona Horse, 30th January, 1904	
Silver claret-jug ...	1904	Major - General G. C. Hogg, C.B.	Presented to the Officers' Mess, 34th Prince Albert Victor's Own Poona Horse, by Major-General G. C. Hogg, C.B., on appointment to Honorary Colonel of the Regiment, May 13, 1904	
Four silver-mounted decanters	1905	Major N. G. Fraser	—	Presented on the occasion of his marriage.

Silver model of an Arab pony	1906	Mrs. Fraser, "In memorandum"	Presented to the Officers, Poona Horse, in memory of Major Nicol Grahame Fraser, 1889 - 1906, by Valentin Alida Fraser.	On the front of the plinth is the regimental crest, also the War Office order, dated 23rd September, 1890, creating H.R.H. Prince Albert Victor Honorary Colonel of the regiment. On the other three sides are silver plates inscribed with the battle honours, official designations of the regiment from time to time since it was raised, and a complete list of Commandants of the regiment.
Silver bust of H.R.H. Prince Albert Victor	1908	Colonel A. W. Forbes	Presented by Colonel A. W. Forbes, on vacating command, 1908	
Case containing 9 volumes, "The Horse," by Axe	1908	Lieutenant B. H. Alderson	Presented to the Officers, 34th Poona Horse, by Lieutenant B. H. Alderson, August, 1908.	

Article.	Date of Presentation.	Presented by—	Inscription.	Remarks.
Water-colour portrait of Lieutenant C. Swanston	1910	General Swanston	Lieutenant C. Swanston, who commanded the 2nd Division of the Poona Auxiliary Horse at the Battle of Koregaum, on Jan. 1st, 1818. From a water-colour painting by a native artist at Sirur, April, 1818. Presented to the Officers' Mess by General Swanston, 1910	General Swanston is a son of the Lieutenant C. Swanston who fought at Koregaum.
Silver centre-piece	1912	Accumulated donations on appointment and promotion : Major W. G. Cooper Captain G. W. C. Lucas Captain E. St. C. Gray Captain C. H. A. Black Captain B. H. Alderson Captain R. H. O'D. Paterson Captain H. A. Hildebrand Captain W. J. Simpson, I.M.S. Lieutenant M. C. Raymond Lieutenant W. G. Elphinstone Lieutenant F. A. de Pass Lieutenant W. E. Campbell Lieutenant R. G. MacGregor Lieutenant R. H. Burlton 2nd Lieutenant R. H. Burlton	Presented to the Officers, Poona Horse, 1912	A large silver bowl, flanked by two silver models of polo ponies. Round the plinth runs a silver band, on which is inscribed all the polo tournaments the regiment has won.
Post-box ...	1912		Presented to the Officers, the Poona Horse, by 2nd Lieutenant R. H. Burlton, Dec., 1912.	

## APPENDIX B

## LIST OF CUPS AND TROPHIES WON BY THE REGIMENT

Article.	Date.	Team.	Inscription.	Remarks.
Silver cup: Poona Open Tournament	1886	Ducat, Forbes, Thomas		
Silver cup: Poona District Tournament	1894	Gordon, Stewart, Fraser, Grantham		
Silver cup: Tent-pegging, Bombay	1894	Captain C. F. Grantham, Ressaidar Nazir Ali Khan, Jemedar Sherbaz Khan, Jemedar Mahomed Khan Bahadur	Bombay Naval and Military Tournament, 1894. Presented by H.R.H. Prince Louis of Savoy, Duc d'Abruzzi	
Silver cup: Poona District Tournament	1895	Newnham, Raymond, Gordon, Grantham.		
Indian silver bowl: Ahmednagar Tournament	1896	Heyland, Cooper, Raymond, Thomas.		
Silver cup: Poona Open Tournament	1896	Fraser, Ducat, Raymond, Grantham.		

Article.	Date.	Team.	Inscription.	Remarks.
Two Indian silver bowls	1896	Won by Jemedar Mahomed Khan Bahadur	Best man-at-arms, Native Officers, Bombay Cavalry, 1896. Presented by Sir Charles Nairne, C.-in-C.	Presented to the Officers' Mess by Jemedar Mahomed Khan Bahadur.
Silver cup: Poona Junior Tournament	1897	"A" Team: Manowar Khan, Kilkelly, Newnham, Mahomed Kadir Khan "B" Team: Rowcroft, Mul Sing, Fraser, Mahomed Khan	—	The two regimental teams were left in for the final, which was not played off, as the players had to hurry back to Sirur, owing to plague having broken out in the regiment.
Silver cup: Poona Junior Tournament	1898	Manowar Khan, Cooper, Raymond, Mahomed Kadir Khan.	—	Defeating Golconda at their best., Score, 3-1.
Silver cup: Poona Open Tournament	1898	Intiaz Ali, Cooper, Raymond, Mahomed Kadir Khan	—	

Indian silver bowl: Tent-pegging, Poona	1898	Grimshaw, Kilkelly, Intiaz Ali, Newnham	<p>Defeating 15th Hussars (winners of the Inter- Regimental, 1902-3-4- 5-6-7) by 5 goals to 0.</p> <p>The following were the competing teams : 18th Bengal Lancers. 1st Hyderabad Lancers. 3rd Bengal Cavalry. 1st Central India Horse. 4th Bengal Cavalry. 2nd Gurkhas. 2nd Central India Horse. 1st Bengal Lancers. 5th Bengal Lancers. 2nd Punjab Cavalry. 19th Bengal Lancers. 3rd Bombay Cavalry, Poona Horse.</p>
Silver cup: Meerut Autumn Tournament	1902		
Silver bowl: Delhi Autumn Indian Army Tournament, Lord Curzon's cup	1903	Cooper, Kilkelly, Intiaz Ali, Newnham	
Silver cup, Aga Khan's cup: Tent-pegging, Poona Assault-at-Arms	1909	Davie, Grimshaw, Norbury, Studdy.	

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